Project restoration

GI visits Moortown GC in Leeds, to find bunker renovation and course remodelling, in progress

ALSO INSIDE... NEMATODES IN TURF : ROUGH MOWING : SMS
Return to splendour

The number of golf clubs which boast a rich heritage is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world. To have clocked up 100 years here joins a club to a well deserved if not particularly exclusive group, while to have 200 years of history is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world. To have any other country in the world. To have a rich heritage is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world. To have a rich heritage is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world.

It is fantastic to know that you can often be playing the same course as the legends of the game, but it does also cause problems. Courses can become tired, they can become too short for the modern equipment and they can become rendered almost indistinguishable from the original as a result of tinkering by well meaning club members – ill placed bunkers and tom indigenous trees providing the main evidence.

Returning such courses to their previous splendour is not always easy but the best approach, finances permitting, is to buy in the advice and expertise of the professionals. That is exactly what Moortown Golf Club has done in bringing Ken Brown, Ken Moodie and the two Ken’s and carried out by the advice and expertise of the professionals.

The bunker work, which has been designed approach, finances permitting, is to buy in the advice and expertise of the professionals. That is exactly what Moortown Golf Club has done in bringing Ken Brown, Ken Moodie and the two Ken’s and carried out by the advice and expertise of the professionals.

The bunker work, which has been designed in bringing Ken Brown, Ken Moodie and the two Ken’s and carried out by the advice and expertise of the professionals.

The bunker work, which has been designed in bringing Ken Brown, Ken Moodie and the two Ken’s and carried out by the advice and expertise of the professionals.

The bunker work, which has been designed in bringing Ken Brown, Ken Moodie and the two Ken’s and carried out by the advice and expertise of the professionals.

The great Mystic Meg, on her best form, would have placed the bunkers if he had been the man, most likely to knock Rory off the perch, made a stunning return to form to tie for second two shots behind. Tiger Woods has been showing glimpses of his old form, but last night with a magnificent eight under 62 in less than perfect conditions, he demonstrated that he was well and truly back.

For the Moortown profile on page 16, it’s not just as simple as unearthing the old bunkers and rebuilding them in a MacKenzie style to take account of modern equipment a best guess as to where MacKenzie clocked up 100 years here joins a club to a well deserved if not particularly exclusive group, while to have 200 years of history is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world. To have a rich heritage is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world. To have a rich heritage is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world. To have a rich heritage is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world. To have a rich heritage is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world. To have a rich heritage is greater in the UK than in any other country in the world.

As Ken Brown says in the article, you have to take account of how far the ball will be travelling in another 30 to 50 years and that is influenced by both technology and regulation - should the R&A be minded to take a stand. The great Mystic Meg, on her best form, would have placed the bunkers if he had been the man, most likely to knock Rory off the perch, made a stunning return to form to tie for second two shots behind. Tiger Woods has been showing glimpses of his old form, but last night with a magnificent eight under 62 in less than perfect conditions, he demonstrated that he was well and truly back.

That Rory held off his charge so well makes his own achievement even more laudable but won’t it be great to watch the rivalry over the next few years?
Good design goes unnoticed. Hunter Industries’ TTS rotor keeps all the
innovation unseen and below the green. Featuring Total Top Servicing, TTS is
the no-dig solution for simple and quick maintenance, so golfers have more
time to play on. With the world’s first DIH- (Decoder-in-Head) capable rotor,
you can forget about hundreds of unsightly decoder enclosures on your
course. Out of sight, out of mind.

www.huntergolf.com
A look at what’s inside the magazine this month

**MARCH 2012**

**FEATURES**

**COURSE FEATURE**

16 Back to the Future
Scott MacCalkun discovers why the Moortown Golf Club in Leeds has returned to a course style that was created by Alistair MacKenzie, thanks to architect Ken Moodie.

25 Turf Fertiliser... A Question of Balance and Perspective
Dr Terry Mabbett shares with grass and greenkeepers alike the elements and nutrients that are required for healthy turf.

30 Nematodes in Turf
Read closely as Graham Paul offers you a chance to collect some BASIS points and learn some information on Nematodes, and the damage that they could cause your turf.

34 Improving the Golfing Experience
Murray Long describes the transformation taking place at Wimbledon Park Golf Club as the first phase is completed, soon to be followed by the second, this October.

36 Rough Mowing to a High Standard
James de Havilland gives you a rough guide to rough mowers as he describes what you should look for in a revolutionised rough mower.

42 The Alchemist
David Greenshields tells you how you can change your grass seed mixture without necessarily having to change your mixture completely.

**REGULARS**

6 Newsdesk
11 Chairman’s word
12 GTC
13 Learning and Development
14 Industry Update
15 What’s your Number?
46 Around the Green
49 Assistant Profile
54 Membership
55 Diary of Events
56 In the Shed
66 Soapbox

**ALSO INSIDE...**

- BUNKER RENOVATION
- TURF FERTILISER
- Project Restoration
- Assistant Profile
- Membership
- Diary of Events
- In the Shed
- Soapbox

The official monthly magazine of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association Limited.
GI CONTENTS
A look at what's inside the magazine this month

MARCH 2012

FEATURES

COURSE FEATURE

16 Back to the Future
Scott MacCallum discovers why the Moortown Golf Club in Leeds has returned to a course style that was created by Alistair MacKenzie, thanks to architect Ken Moodie

25 Turf Fertiliser… A Question of Balance and Perspective
Dr Terry Mabbett shares with grass and greenkeepers alike the elements and nutrients that are required for healthy turf

30 Nematodes in Turf
Read closely as Graham Paul offers you a chance to collect some BASIS points and learn some information on Nematodes, and the damage that they could cause your turf

BUNKER RENOVATION

34 Improving the Golfing Experience
Murray Long describes the transformation taking place at Wimbledon Park Golf Club as the first phase is completed, soon to be followed by the second, this October

36 Rough Mowing to a High Standard
James de Havilland gives you a rough guide to rough mowing as he describes what you should look for in a revolutionised rough mower

42 The Alchemist
David Greenshields tells you how you can change your grass seed mixture without necessarily having to change your mixture completely

REGULARS

6 Newsdesk
11 Chairman’s word
12 GTC
13 Learning and Development
14 Industry Update
15 What’s your Number?
46 Around the Green
49 Assistant Profile
54 Membership
55 Diary of Events
56 In the Shed
66 Soapbox

The official monthly magazine of the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association Limited.
BIGGA Member to Ride in Aid of Prostate Cancer Research

Berkhamsstead Golf Club’s, Myles Wood, is to undertake the Wiggle Dragon Ride, an arduous 78 mile cycle ride, in Wales in aid of prostate cancer research.

“My goal is to raise £500 and I’ve been building up my training steadily. It currently includes regular weekly rides ranging from 15km - 65km with varying speed and time targets dependant on distance, I am also utilising a roller mechanism so I can continue with training indoors on a day to day basis,” said Myles.

“During the coming weeks heading up to the ride I have scheduled a training programme, which will increase in intensity and distances leading up to the event date. I have also entered two other sporting events, which will offer an ideal opportunity for me to accustom myself to this type of distance riding, having only started riding last year.”

Prostate Cancer is the most common form of male cancer. Treatment options and prognosis depend on the stage of the cancer, the patient’s age and general health.

With greater public awareness, early detection is on the rise and mortality rates are declining.

Additionally, new advances in medical technology are enabling cancer patients to return to active and productive lives after their treatment.

For more information or to donate to Myles’ attempt visit: www.virginmoneygiving.com/MylesWoodWiggleDragonRide2012

LAWNS FOR YOU

Well known Scottish greenkeeper, Duncan Gray, has launched a new internet based lawncare business, Lawns for You, with the aim of having a network of greenkeepers around the country to provide a quality service to home owners and bowling greens.

“The principle intention is to have greenkeepers, who are employed at golf clubs but are looking for extra work,” explained Duncan.

“I have a number of local lawncare companies coming on board, but to cover the country I would really like to have greenkeepers willing to work part time, either with their own equipment or hired equipment, who can call on to cover work in their own area,” added Duncan, who has over 30 years experience in the industry and designed and managed The Pines Golf Centre in Dumfries as well as being Superintendent at Lahinch, in Ireland among other courses.

For further information visit www.lawnsforyou.com

Conference Update

BIGGA MIDLAND REGION CONFERENCE

AT FRILFORD HEATH GOLF CLUB – 29TH MARCH 2012

on CONSTRUCTION & WEATHER IT’S ECOLOGICALLY SOUND

Further details… See Diary of Events Page 55

FIRST CANDIDATES PASS AMENITY FOUNDATION AWARD

Thirteen delegates from across the UK took and successfully passed the newly introduced BASBI Foundation Award (Amenity Horticulture) Course during HTME. The three day course and exam were sponsored by Sherriff Amenity, with support from Everris and Syngenta.

The training was held as part of the Continue to Learn education programme that ran alongside the Exhibition.

Dr Ruth Mann from STRI ran the three day training course covering all areas of product management, including application, weed, disease and pest identification and biology and the need for protecting the environment.

The delegates were: Chris Drewery; Paul Copsey; Alex Hawken; Craig Earnshaw; Ben Adkins; Jim Brown; Angus Macleod; David Lovejoy; Rob Worcester; Angus Fraser; Ian Pullan; Nicola Coupar-Marsh and Andy Baker.

New Administrator for RIPTA Register

At their recent meeting in Harrogate, RIPTA (The Register of Independent Professional Turfgrass Agronomists) elected Jeff Perris as the new Administrator of the Register.

Jeff retired from STRI two years ago after being a consultant agronomist for 43 years. He was one of the founder members of RIPTA and has been Administrator of the Register in the past.

“Now that I have more spare time in my retirement, I hope that some of this time can be given to promoting and developing RIPTA both nationally and internationally,” said Jeff.

The Register was formed in 2002 to provide a source of agronomic consultancy of the highest standard and was widely welcomed in the sports turf industry. Many Sports Governing Bodies, funding organisations, as well those involved in sports turf management, now refer to RIPTA as their source of agronomic expertise.

Consultants on the Register:

• Must hold a recognised first degree or MSc in plant or earth science.
• Consultants or their employer must have and maintain insurance including Professional Indemnity insurance that satisfies the requirements of the Register Administrator.
• The Consultants must have no association or understanding however informal with any commercial organisation that could influence his or her independence.
• Consultants or their employer must have and observe a written Code of Ethics.

For further information about RIPTA visit www.ripta.co.uk

Training Event For Senior Toro Distributors

Toro University, a training event for senior Toro distributors, was held in the UK at the Wyboston Lakes Training and Conference Centre.

Attended by over 50 representatives from Toro’s distributors across Europe and the Middle East, each delegate was given a thorough technical update and introduction to all the latest models in the Toro portfolio as well as an insight into all the improvements that continue to evolve the Toro range.

Seventeen products featured over the two days, over half them being brand new models introduced over the past 12 months. Toro’s Chris Cooper commented, “Toro University gives us the chance to present new products to our global distributor network. With so many products having been, and still being introduced, this year’s event has been a fantastic opportunity for education and learning about all the exciting new products particularly as it was just before the Golf Show.”

GI NEWSDESK

The latest news from the globe

Please email scott@bigga.co.uk with your news items
**BIGGA Member to Ride in Aid of Prostate Cancer Research**

Berkhamstead Golf Club’s, Myles Wood, is to undertake the Wiggle Drag race, an arduous 78 mile cycle ride, in Wales in aid of prostate cancer research.

“My goal is to raise £500 and I’ve been building up my training steadily. It currently includes regular weekly rides ranging from 13km - 65km with varying speed and time targets dependent on distance, I am also utilising a roller machine so I can continue with training indoors on a day to day basis,” said Myles.

“During the coming weeks heading up to the ride I have scheduled a training programme, which will increase in intensity and distances leading up to the event date. I have also entered two other ‘sportive’ events, which will offer an ideal opportunity for me to acclimatise myself to this type of distance riding, having only started riding last year.”

Prostate Cancer is the most common form of male cancer. Treatment options and prognosis depend on the stage of the cancer; the patient’s age and general health.

With greater public awareness, early detection is on the rise and mortality rates are declining. Additionally, new advances in medical technology are enabling cancer patients to return to active and productive lives after their treatment.

For more information or to donate to Myles’ attempt visit: https://mylenwood.wiggledragrideride.com

**Conference Update**

**BIGGA MIDLAND REGION CONFERENCE**

**AT FRILFORD HEATH GOLF CLUB**

**— 29th MARCH 2012**

**on CONSTRUCTION & WEATHER IT’S ECOLOGICALLY SOUND**

**Further details...**

See Diary of Events Page 55

**FIRST CANDIDATES PASS AMENITY FOUNDATION AWARD**

Thirteen delegates from across the UK took and successfully passed the newly introduced BASI Foundation Award (Amenity Horticulture) Course during HTIME. The three day course and exam were sponsored by Sherriff Amenity, with support from Everris and Syngenta.

The training was held as part of the Continue to Learn education programme that ran alongside the Exhibition. Dr Ruth Mann from STRI ran the three day training course covering all areas of product management, including application, weed, disease and pest identification and biology and the need for protecting the environment.

The delegates where: Chris Drewry; Paul Cupsey; Alex Hawken; Craig Earnshaw; Ben Adkins; Jim Brown; Angus Macleod; David Lovejoy; Rob Worcester; Angus Fraser; Ian Pullen, Nicola Coupar-Marshal and Andy Baker.

**Training Event For Senior Toro Distributors**

Toro University, a training event for senior Toro distributors, was held in the UK at the Wyboston Lakes Training and Conference Centre.

Attended by over 50 representatives from Toro’s distributors across Europe and the Middle East, each delegate was given a thorough technical update and introduction to all the latest models in the Toro portfolio, as well as an insight into all the improvements that continue to evolve the Toro range.

Seventeen products featured over the two days, with half of them being brand new models introduced over the past 12 months.

Toro’s Chris Cooper commented, “Toro University gives us the chance to present new products to our global distributor network. With so many products having been, and still being introduced, this year’s event has been a fantastic opportunity for education and learning about all the exciting new products particularly as it was just before the Golf Show.”

**New Administrator for RIPTA Register**

At their recent meeting in Harrrogate, RIPTA (The Register of Independent Professional Turfgrass Agronomists) elected Jeff Perris as the new Administrator of the Register.

Jeff retired from STRI two years ago after being a consultant agronomist for 43 years. He was one of the founder members of RIPTA and has been Administrator of the Register in the past.

“No that I have more spare time in my retirement, I hope that some of this time can be given to promoting and developing RIPTA both nationally and internationally,” said Jeff.

The Register was formed in 2002 to provide a source of agronomic consultancy of the highest standard and was widely welcomed in the sports turf industry. Many Sports Governing Bodies, funding organisations and those involved in sports turf management, now refer to RIPTA as their source of agronomic expertise.

Consultants on the Register:

- Must hold a recognised first degree or MSc in plant or earth science.
- Consultants’/company experience must include at least four years post-graduate experience as a full-time, independent turfgrass agronomist.
- The Consultants must have no association or understanding however informal with any commercial organisation that could influence his or her independence.
- Consultants or their employer must have and maintain insurance including Professional Indemnity insurance that satisfies the requirements of the Register Administrator.
- Consultants’/company business activities will not conflict with their ability to provide advice and Consultants with other business interests need to show the major part of the income derived from turf consultancy.
- Consultants or their employer must have and observe a written Code of Ethics.

For further information about RIPTA visit www.ripta.co.uk
Early last year I was invited to officiate as a Citing Commissioner at the 2011 Rugby World Cup taking place in New Zealand.

It took me about five seconds to respond and say that I was prepared to go providing I could get time off work! So I was very grateful to the BIGGA Board for allowing me to take nearly two months unpaid leave to enable me to participate.

On Sunday, September 4, I took the 24-hour flight to Auckland with Air New Zealand and landed in the early hours of Tuesday morning, September 6.

My qualifications for undertaking this task are that many years ago I played international rugby for England in the Second Row and am reckoned to know a bit about foul play! I have also been carrying out citing duties for the past 11 years in the Aviva Premiership, the European Rugby Cup, the 6 Nations Championship and also at the Rugby World Cup, the 6 Nations, the Premiership, the European Championship and also at the World Cup in France in 2007.

During my stay in Auckland I had one citing and had to cite the Italian hooker Ghiraldini for “interference with the eyes” and he was banned for 15 weeks.

The disciplinary team for the RWC comprised six Citing Commissioners (CCs), one from Ireland, one from New Zealand, one from Scotland, one from Italy and myself from England; six Judicial Officers who were to chair the disciplinary hearings resulting from a sending off or a citing by the CC. We also received our allocation of matches; one CC per match. I was allocated nine matches and was to be the CC for the first match New Zealand vs Tonga at Eden Park, the venue for many matches including the semi-finals, the 3rd place play-off and the RWC Final. I ended up with nine matches; my last match being semi-final between New Zealand and Australia.

Thankfully the first match went off without incident, and I found that the system set up by Sky was brilliant. At each referral there would be anything from 10 to 24 cameras, depending on the size of the venue and importance of the match. We watched the match as broadcast to the world and had an audio link to the referee. We were able to obtain all angles of any incident fed over the internet within an hour of the end of the match, and were then able to review any incident that caused concern and decide whether or not any foul play had been committed; we were able to view incidents at normal speed, slow-motion, super-slow motion and freeze frame by frame. If a citing was required, we had to prepare a detailed report and send it together with DVD evidence to the RWC Disciplinary Officer, when a hearing would be convened. Players had to travel to Auckland for hearings and, if found guilty, would usually be banned from playing for a period of time depending on the seriousness of the offence. In total there were 13 citings in the 2011 RWC Tournament and all were upheld.

I had one citing and had a number of near misses; I had to cite the Italian hooker Ghiraldini for “interference with the eyes” and he was banned for 15 weeks.

During my stay in Auckland I had the opportunity to visit Eden Park on many occasions, one of which enabled me to meet Mark Perham, the Head Groundsman. Mark had previously been a golf greenkeeper at golf clubs in Timaru in the South Island. He gave me a tour of the Stadium and explained how it was used to provide a test venue for both rugby and cricket. For cricket, what happens is that the lower stand tiers are mechanically withdrawn until the playing area becomes oval shaped. They then drop a couch grass playing strip into a metal well in the centre of the ground, which is playable for six to eight days, and is a good enough surface for test and provincial matches. Eden Park is the only stadium to host two Rugby World Cup finals; New Zealand won the World Cup in 1987 when they defeated France, repeating the feat in 2011. The Eden Park area of Auckland has been in use as a sports venue for nearly 110 years, being first the home to Auckland cricket from 1910 and then Auckland rugby from 1925.

We had more spare time during October after the pool matches had been finished, which gave us many opportunities to see the magnificent scenery New Zealand has to offer. The local New Zealanders were great hosts and I don’t think anyone begrudged them their narrow victory over France in the final. Once again, my thanks are extended to the BIGGA Board of Directors for allowing me the time to participate in this wonderful event.

P J Larter

P J Larter

For further information please call our Customer Service Team on 01270 752 700 or email us at sales@rufford.com

www.rufford.com

pure

but not so simple

Bunker sands don’t just have to make your course look good. They also have to perform consistently in tough conditions throughout the year. At Rufford, we’ve developed a range of specialist bunker sands that offer a number of key benefits including:

• good drainage and low crusting potential
• optimum particle size distribution to minimise ball bounce or plugging
• high purity, ensuring colour stability and a hard-wearing product
• can be ameliorated with your existing bunker sands in most cases
• nationwide availability

For further information please call our Customer Service Team on 01270 752 700 or email us at sales@rufford.com
My Rugby World Cup Experience

by Peter Larter (BIGGA Regional Administrator)

Early last year I was invited by Rugby World Cup Organising Committee to officiate as a Citing Commissioner at the 2011 RWC Tournament taking place in New Zealand.

It took me about five seconds to respond and say that I was prepared to go providing I could get time off work! So I was very grateful to the BIGGA Board for allowing me to take nearly two months unpaid leave to enable me to participate.

On Sunday, September 4, I took the 24 hour flight to Auckland with Air New Zealand and landed in the early hours of Tuesday morning, September 6.

My qualifications for undertaking this task are that many years ago I played international rugby for England in the Second Row and am reckoned to know a bit about foul play! I have also been carrying out citing duties for the past 11 years in the Aviva Premiership, the European Rugby Cup, the 6 Nations Championship and also at the Rugby World Cup in France in 2007.

The disciplinary team for the RWC comprised six Citing Commissioners (CCs), one from Ireland, one from New Zealand, one from Australia, one from Scotland, one from Italy and myself from England; six Judicial Officers who were to chair the disciplinary hearings resulting from a sending off or a citing by the CC. We also received our allocation of matches; one CC per match. I was allocated nine matches and was to be the CC for the first match New Zealand vs Tonga at Eden Park.

During my stay in Auckland I had the opportunity to visit Eden Park on many occasions, which had been either missed or had to cite the Italian hooker Ghiraldini for “interference with the eyes” and he was banned for 15 weeks.

During my stay in Auckland I had the opportunity to visit Eden Park on many occasions, one of which enabled me to meet Mark Perham, the Head Groundsman. Mark had previously been a golf greenkeeper at golf clubs in Timaru in the South Island. He gave me a tour of the Stadium and explained how it was used to provide a test venue for both rugby and cricket. For cricket, what happens is that the lower stand tiers are mechanically withdrawn until the playing area becomes oval shaped. Then they drop a couch grass playing strip into a metal well in the centre of the ground, which is playable for six to eight days, and is a good enough surface for test and provincial matches. Eden Park is the only stadium in the world to host two Rugby World Cup finals; New Zealand won the World Cup in 1987 when they defeated France, repeating the feat in 2011. The Eden Park area of Auckland has been in use as a sports venue for nearly 110 years, being first the home to Auckland cricket from 1910 and then Auckland rugby from 1925.

We had more spare time during October after the pool matches had been finished, which gave us many opportunities to see the magnificent scenery New Zealand has to offer.

The local New Zealanders were great hosts and I don’t think anyone begrudged them their narrow victory over France in the final. Once again, my thanks are extended to the BIGGA Board of Directors for allowing me the time to participate in this wonderful event.

P L Larter
BARENBRUG APPOINT NEW R&D MANAGER

Barenbrug has appointed Dr David Greenshields as its new Research and Development Manager.

The appointment follows the departure of Jayne Leyland, who has left for pastures new after 13 years with the Bury St Edmunds-based business.

Boasting a Master’s degree in Environmental Biology from St Andrews University, David has strong technical and practical knowledge across golf, sports and amenity applications.

“I’m delighted to take on the responsibility for our research and development programme. Having been heavily involved in our Scottish trials programme, as well as having a special responsibility for our Golf Course, building new bunkers, at our 18th green, and landscaping areas around our entrance way. Students have been heavily involved at all levels, learning the importance of all aspects, e.g. planning, resources, effective execution, evaluation, and communication. Preparing the course for another season is also top of the agenda.”

In a similar vein, BIGGA work continues. The staff have met to evaluate BTME 2012, the members have also been surveyed online and findings will be discussed at the March Board meeting. The Board and the Chief Executive met in early February to continue work on the Strategy and Business plan. This will also be advanced at the March Board meeting.

I attended the FEGGA conference with the CEO in Prague, Czech Republic. The hospitality of the Czech Greenkeeping Association was warm, friendly and extremely well organised. It was good to meet representatives from so many of our European Associations and to hear about the issues affecting them and to discuss potential solutions to address them. We were invited to attend the Board meeting, and we took the opportunity to represent the views of BIGGA members. We will continue to press for more involvement in order to ensure BIGGA members are represented in the work FEGGA undertakes and can make an appropriate contribution, alongside all the Associations of Europe to our mutual benefit.

I’m just back from the Golf Industry Show hosted by GCSCA in Las Vegas. We had many meetings with our counterparts, to discuss how to help our members. Bob Randquist (President), Rhett Evans (CEO) and the Board took time to meet with us and to provide an opportunity to meet with other organisations. We have formally signed a Strategic Agreement with GCSCA which will strengthen both Associations and enable us to advance our missions and promote cooperation and goodwill between our members.

Chairman’s Word

National Chairman, Andrew Mellon, gives his thoughts for the month

The economic climate has brought about the latest challenge we face, and this has led to a greater understanding that golf must be sustainable in the true sense of the word.

Opportunities for successful collaboration exist in these specific areas:

- Annual education conferences and trade shows
- Support from industry vendors, sponsors and partners
- Professional development and education, and recognition of qualifications/awards
- Commitment to sustainability
- Membership products, services and information

This is a great opportunity to ensure that we can share good practice, and the spirit and goodwill which was shown to us during this visit gives me confidence that this work will bring real benefit to our members. Our staff will be working together to see how we can best implement these opportunities and we will communicate this to you in due course.

GCSCA has at its heart, the same as BIGGA; passionate, professional and dedicated members and staff, for whom the camaraderie of a Professional Association provides a network through which we can constantly strive to improve, gain support when necessary, and share our experiences for the better of others. I was very proud to witness this professionalism demonstrated by our very own Bernhard Bertram, whose thanks to such generous support were able to benefit from this experience. This will be reported in more detail next month.

An International meeting also took place and discussions were held on further collaboration globally among all our Associations. This will be developed further by our CBOs who communicate regularly, and hopefully we will see what progress can be made.

Since Golf’s origins in Scotland in the true sense of the word, the demands on Course Managers and Greenkeepers has increased dramatically. As golf courses were developed in increasingly diverse terrain and climate conditions, the challenges grew and our profession adapted to cope with these challenges. Many lessons have been learned with tens of thousands of courses being built in the established golf markets. Such vast knowledge, skills and experience has great value and we need to ensure it is shared. The economic climate has brought about the latest challenge we face, and this has led to a greater understanding that golf developments and maintenance practices must be sustainable in the true sense of the word. This is a very important area in which we can all learn from one another, and will be at the forefront of collaborations we seek.

The future of the game of golf depends on growing the game, in a way that it is recognised as a responsible part of the community. Golf can be a leader in sus-
BARENBRUG APPOINT NEW R&D MANAGER

Barenbrug has appointed Dr David Greenshields as its new Research and Development Manager.

The appointment follows the departure of Jayne Leyland, who has left for pastures new after 13 years with the Bury St Edmunds-based business.

Boasting a Master’s degree in Environmental Biology from St Andrews University in Scotland and a PhD in Plant Pathology from Edinburgh University, David has strong technical and practical knowledge across golf, sports and amenity applications.

“Tackling the challenges facing the golf industry is a privilege,” Dr Greenshields says. “I’m delighted to take on the role of R&D Manager and am looking forward to working with the Barenbrug team.”

Barenbrug is one of the world’s leading seed and grasses specialists, with over 150 years in the business.

This last month since BTME at Harrogate has been very busy at work and in my duties to BIGGA. A nice dry spring has allowed us to progress well with the continued improvements at Elmwood Golf Course, building new bunkers, at our 18th green, and landscaping areas around our entrance way. Students have been heavily involved at all levels, learning the importance of all aspects, eg. planning, resources, effective execution, evaluation, and communication. Preparing the course for another season is also top of the agenda.

In a similar vein BIGGA work continues. The staff have met to evaluate BTME 2012, the members have also been surveyed online and findings will be discussed at the March Board meeting. The Board and the Chief Executive met in early February to continue work on the Strategy and Business plan. This will also be advanced at the March Board meeting.

I attended the FEGGA conference with the CEO in Prague, Czech Republic. The hospitality of the Czech Greenkeeping Association was warm, friendly and extremely well organised. It was good to meet representatives from so many of our European Associations and to hear about the issues affecting them and to discuss potential solutions to address them. We were invited to attend the Board meeting, and we took the opportunity to represent the views of BIGGA members. We will continue to press for more involvement in order to ensure BIGGA members are represented in the work FEGGA undertakes and can make an appropriate contribution, alongside all the Associations of Europe to our mutual benefit.

I’m just back from the Golf Industry Show hosted by GCSAA in Las Vegas. We had many meetings with our counterparts, to discuss how to help our members. Bob Randquist (President), Rhett Evans (CEO) and The Board took time to meet with us and to hear about our activities. We have formally signed a Strategic Agreement with GCSAA which will strengthen both Associations and enable us to advance our missions and promote cooperation and goodwill between our members.

Opportunities for successful collaboration exist in five specific areas:

• Annual education conferences and trade shows
• Support from industry vendors, sponsors and partners
• Professional development and education, and recognition of qualifications / awards
• Commitment to sustainability
• Membership products, services and information

This is a great opportunity to ensure that we can share good practice, and the spirit and goodwill which was shown to us during this visit gives me confidence that this work will bring real benefit to our members. Our staff will be working together to see how we can best implement these opportunities and we will communicate this to you in due course.

BIGGA has at its heart, the same as BSGGA: passionate, professional and dedicated members and staff, for whom the camaraderie of a Professional Association provides a network through which we can constantly strive to improve, gain support when necessary, and share our experiences for the benefit of others. I was very proud to witness this professionalism demonstrated by our very own Bernhard’s associations, who thanks to such generous support were able to benefit from this experience. This will be reported in more detail next month.

An International meeting also took place and discussions were held on further collaboration globally among all our Associations. This will be developed further by our CBHOs who communicate regularly, and hopefully we will see what progress can be made.

Since Golf’s origins in Scotland in the form we recognise, it has spread across the world, and the standards expected and achievable have increased. Golf courses were developed in increasingly diverse terrain and climate conditions, the challenges grew and our profession adapted to cope with these challenges. Many lessons have been learned with tens of thousands of courses being built in the established golf markets. Such vast knowledge, skills and experience have great value and we need to ensure it is shared. The economic climate has brought about the latest challenge we face, and this has led to a greater understanding that golf developments and maintenance practices must be sustainable in the true sense of the word. This is a vitally important area in which we can all learn from one another, and will be at the forefront of collaborations we seek.

The future of the game of golf depends on growing the game, in a way that it is recognised as a responsible part of the community. Golf can be a leader in sus-
Greenkeepers Training Committee

David Golding, GTC Education Director, invites you to register on a new website.

Last month I updated you all on the work I have been carrying out as the Standards Director to the European Greenkeepers Education Unit (EGEU). This month, I invite you to register on a new website which is designed to become the information portal to give greenkeepers, Golf Course Managers and employers the most up to date advice and guidance on education, training and qualifications within the sector.

As the GTC seeks to continue its role to ensure British Golf Clubs and all greenkeepers have a range of qualifications available to employers and greenkeepers there has been an increase in enquiries from outside of Britain from countries relatively new to the game of golf and with little or no greenkeepers education system available.

There is no doubt that in recent years the “game of golf” has woken up to the fact that the golf course is, for whatever reason, good the off course facilities may be disappointed. I know many of today’s Course Managers know and will continue to develop their experience, they have just experienced.

I was certainly a privilege to witnessed first hand at the PEGO Conference held in Prague.

Some 19 Greenkeeping Associations are in exactly the same position as the British Model for greenkeeper education existing systems.

The British greenkeeper education, training and qualifications system is held in very high regard abroad as I witnessed first hand at the PEGO Conference held in Prague.

Some 19 Greenkeeping Associations were represented in Prague and there was a tremendous camaraderie among delegates which is mirrored on a global basis as it is often the same issues some problems that face both greenkeepers and golf club employers.

It was certainly a privilege to make a presentation on behalf of the EGEU and to share what I had learned at the British Model for greenkeeper education existing systems.

Some Greenkeeping Associations are in exactly the same position as the British Model for greenkeeper education existing systems. They have been a special role to play within the game and we must all work together hopefully avoiding duplicating roles but complimenting each others work.

The GTC is looking to work closely with the EGEU and all the organisations and companies who offer quality training for greenkeepers and golf club employers especially those looking to become part of the Quality Assured System and be featured on the greenkeepertraining.com website.

With Las Vegas and the Golf Industry Show for another year the focus of the Learning and Development Greenkeepers for the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year and the Open Support Team. Yes, we’re busy here!

Golf Industry Show

I’ve just returned from the Golf Industry Show, which this year was held in Las Vegas. I spent a great deal of my time, when not on the BIGGA Stand, meeting with the GCBA’s education team and representatives from other international Associations.

The 10 members who made up the 10 groups were represented in Prague and bernhard Co.

With a packed week of golf courses, visits, education seminars, the trade show, manning the BIGGA stand I’m pleased to say that the new SMS has received very positive feedback.

The original SMS will no longer be accessible after the end of April and download your Rick Profiles is shown on page 44 of this magazine. All users of the original SMS will be emailed a reminder of their username, password and instructions to access their information.

Continue to Learn Education Programme 2013

With planning of the 2013 Continue to Learn education programme underway, we are looking for ideas and suggestions for speakers and topics for the “Turf Managers’ Conference, workshops and seminars.

If you have a proposal for a seminar that you would like to present, please send the details to me for consideration.

If you have any suggestions for topics or speakers you would like to see on the programme please drop me an email to sami@bigga.co.uk.

Learning & Development

Sami Collins, Head of Learning & Development, with an update on education issues.

High Education Scholarships

Higher Education Scholarships are now available to those BIGGA members who are undertaking a Higher Education course. If you meet the following criteria may be eligible to apply for a scholarship:

• Be a Full Member of BIGGA

With planning of the 2013 Continue to Learn education programme underway, we are looking for ideas and suggestions for speakers and topics for the “Turf Managers’ Conference, workshops and seminars.

If you have a proposal for a seminar that you would like to present, please send the details to me for consideration.

If you have any suggestions for topics or speakers you would like to see on the programme please drop me an email to sami@bigga.co.uk.
Greenkeepers Training Committee

David Golding, GTC Education Director, invites you to register on a new website

Last month I updated you all on the work I have been carrying out as the Standards Director to the European Greenkeepers Education Unit (EGEU). This month, I invite you to register on a new website which is designed to become the information portal to give greenkeepers, Golf Course Managers and employers the most up to date advice and guidance on education, training and qualifications within the sector. As the GTC looks to continue its role to ensure British Golf Clubs and all greenkeepers have a range of qualifications available to employers and greenkeepers there has been an increase in enquires from outside of Britain from countries relatively new to the game of golf and with little or no greenkeeper education system available.

There is no doubt that in recent years the "game of golf" has woken up to the fact that the golf course is, for whatever reason, good the off course facilities may be of the golfers priority of the golfer.

The British greenkeeper education, training and qualifications system is held in very high regard abroad as I witnessed first hand at the PEGOA Conference held in Prague.

I know many of today’s Course Managers judge the facility however while I know many of today’s Course Managers know what is meant by the expression but no matter how good the course facilities may be if the course is, for whatever reason, not up to standard the golfer feels disappointed.

So often I have heard golfers complain about their golf but have enjoyed their day due to the course environment they have just experienced.

This always leads back to the knowledge, skills and competence of the Course Manager, Head Greenkeeper and his or her employer.

The GTC, and now the EGEU, has and will continue to develop and maintain a Quality Assured Scheme which will allow greenkeepers, Course Managers and employers to access workshops, training courses and for greenkeepers, qualifications which will help those clubs looking to provide a quality golf course.

Managers should have access to advice and guidance to ensure their staff have the knowledge and skills to maintain and manage the golf course and employers also need to understand what their Course Manager is proposing when the maintenance policy and budget is under review.

Greenkeepers Training.com has been launched to showcase those employers who have been running CPD training courses and Training Providers who, having met a criteria, offer quality courses and workshops not only in Britain but as I mentioned earlier much further afield.

The British golf course education, training and qualifications system is held in very high regard abroad as I witnessed first hand at the PEGOA Conference held in Prague.

Some Greenkeeping Associations were represented in Prague and there was a tremendous camaraderie among delegates which is evident as it is on the same issues some problems that face both greenkeepers and golf course employers.

It was certainly a privilege to make a presentation on behalf of the EGEU and to share what I called the British Model for greenkeeper education and qualifications.

From the prestigious resort courses to your nine hole course and the focus on the quality of the playing surfaces always is the number priority of the golfer.

Some will argue that it is the employers who have been represented in Prague and the 10 members who made up the EGEU and all greenkeepers who are looking to establish sustainable greenkeeper education systems.

We will be encouraging countries to ensure the Greenkeeping Association and Golf Federation work together and engage with other professional bodies such as any Golf Course Owners Association, PGA or Golf Club Managers Association approved bodies.

Today there are more and more organisations within golf all having a special role to play within the game and we must all work together hopefully avoiding duplicating roles but complimenting each other's work.

The GTC is looking to work closely with the EGEU and all the organisations and companies who offer quality training for greenkeepers and golf club employers especially those looking to become part of the Quality Assured Scheme and be featured on the greenkeeperstraining.com website.

Greenkeepers Training.com has been launched to showcase those organisations and other key golf bodies to support the EGEU. It is a club to all greenkeepers qualifications which will help those clubs looking to provide a quality golf course.

The 10 members who made up the EGEU and all greenkeepers who are looking to establish sustainable greenkeeper education systems.

We will be encouraging countries to ensure the Greenkeeping Association and Golf Federation work together and engage with other professional bodies such as any Golf Course Owners Association, PGA or Golf Club Managers Association approved bodies.

With Las Vegas and the Golf Industry Show for another year the focus of the Learning and Development Greenkeepers Education Programme is to continue. Believe it or not, for us Continuation to Learn 2013 is looming large with employers to consider and speakers to source.

Several projects are also underway, including updating the Library, a review of the Master Greenkeeper Certificate, the writing of a new Accreditation scheme, reviewing the CPD scheme as well as coordinating the nominations for the Toro Student Greenkeeper of the Year and the Open Support Team. Yes, we’re busy here!

Golf Industry Show

I’ve just returned from the Golf Industry Show, which this year was held in Las Vegas. I spent a great deal of my time, when not on the BIGGA Stand, meeting with the GCSAA’s education team and representatives from other international Associations.

The 10 members who made up the EGEU and all greenkeepers who are looking to establish sustainable greenkeeper education systems.

With a packed week of golf courses, visits, education seminars, the trade show, manning the BIGGA stand and attending receptions as well as sampling all that Vegas had to offer, they were certainly kept busy.

I’m not terribly sure that there was a lot of time for the BEGU but this year, for all your help and your company.

Safety Management System

Supported by Ransomes Jacobsen

In last month’s column I talked about the launch of the new Safety Management System (available in the Members Area of the website). I’m pleased to say that the new SMS has received very positive feedback.

The original SMS will no longer be accessible after the end of April 2012. Full details of how to access and download your Rick Profiles is shown on page 44 of this magazine.

All users of the original SMS will be emailed a reminder of their user name, password and instructions to access their information.

Continue to Learn Education Programme 2013

With planning of the 2013 Continue to Learn education programme underway, we are looking for ideas and suggestions for speakers and topics for the Turf Managers’ Conference, workshops and seminars.

If you have a proposal for a seminar that you would like to present, please send the details to me for consideration.

If you have any suggestions for topics or speakers you would like to see on the programme please drop me an email to sami@bigga.co.uk.

Sami Collins, Head of Learning & Development, with an update on education issues

High Education Scholarships

Higher Education Scholarships are now available to those BIGGA members who are undertaking a Higher Education course. If you meet the following criteria you may be eligible to apply for a scholarship.

• Be a Full Member of BIGGA

In last month’s column I talked about the launch of the new Quality Assured Scheme and featured on the greenkeeperstraining.com website.

www.the-gtc.co.uk

01347 833800 (option 3)

Sami Collins, Head of Learning & Development, with an update on education issues

And the Best Employer Scheme (awarded to the Employer which has the best Greenkeeper or Assistant Greenkeeper in the Year). The British greenkeeper education, training and qualifications system is held in very high regard abroad as I witnessed first hand at the PEGOA Conference held in Prague.

Besides the key roles of the Golf Course Owner, the Course Manager and the Greenkeeper, many Clubs and employers are now investing in the role of the Assistant Greenkeeper. It is the Assistant Greenkeeper who will be the future Greenkeeper and the link between the student and the experienced Greenkeeper.

As we enter the new year, we will be continuing to develop and maintain a Quality Assured Scheme which will allow greenkeepers, Course Managers and employers to access workshops, training courses and for greenkeepers, qualifications which will help those clubs looking to provide a quality golf course.

Managers should have access to advice and guidance to ensure their staff have the knowledge and skills to maintain and manage the golf course and employers also need to understand what their Course Manager is proposing when the maintenance policy and budget is under review.

Greenkeepers Training.com has been launched to showcase those organisations and other key golf bodies to support the EGEU. It is a club to all greenkeepers qualifications which will help those clubs looking to provide a quality golf course.

The 10 members who made up the EGEU and all greenkeepers who are looking to establish sustainable greenkeeper education systems.

We will be encouraging countries to ensure the Greenkeeping Association and Golf Federation work together and engage with other professional bodies such as any Golf Course Owners Association, PGA or Golf Club Managers Association approved bodies.

The original SMS will no longer be accessible after the end of April 2012. Full details of how to access and download your Rick Profiles is shown on page 44 of this magazine.

All users of the original SMS will be emailed a reminder of their user name, password and instructions to access their information.

Continue to Learn Education Programme 2013

With planning of the 2013 Continue to Learn education programme underway, we are looking for ideas and suggestions for speakers and topics for the Turf Managers’ Conference, workshops and seminars.

If you have a proposal for a seminar that you would like to present, please send the details to me for consideration.

If you have any suggestions for topics or speakers you would like to see on the programme please drop me an email to sami@bigga.co.uk.
14 MARCH 2013

INDUSTRY UPDATE

The latest turf industry news from around the globe

Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again.
This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

DEMON GARDEN MACHINERY WIN UK DEALER AWARD

Richard Campany announced the winners of their UK and European Dealership Awards at BTME.

The Awards are given to the dealership that has delivered the best performance over the previous year, not solely in terms of sales but also in back-up, sales and service.

The European Dealer for 2011 was won by Danish Dealer Hadvrup Maskinforsyntning A/S and presented to Director Jens-Erik Hansen for outstanding performance.

 Devon Garden Machinery won the UK Dealer Award and the plaque was presented to DGM Partner Steve Denny by Ian Piggott Piggott, UK Product Specialist for the South.

Firms contact is Chairman Robin Sherrin on 01775 876655 or email abr publicity@virgin.net.

New Distributor in Russia

Hudley Golf, has appointed a new distributor in Russia.
Hudley Golf Russia will be led by Oleg Lukyanov, the Co-Owner of the business, and his Managing Director Dmitry Mordasov.

Barriers to extending a golf culture in Russia have been reported as being primarily driven by a lack of training facilities as well as adverse natural conditions which have, until now, required dearer course design and significant investment.

“Golf across Eastern Europe is relatively new but it’s a game that Russians are really beginning to take to,” announced Oleg.

Paul Hudley, Director of Hudley Golf, which has a growing network of distributors in the UK and abroad, said: “Ostag is the right man to help develop Russia’s budding golfing industry. Having trained in Switzerland and Spain, he’s extremely knowledgeable and is dedicated to advancing the sport.”

Hudley Golf Russia will offer the full range of Hudley Golf surfaces including course tees, practice tees, greens, indoor and outdoor putting greens, pathways, lawns, mats and practice nets, with hotel, golf clubs, teaching academies, and private clients all targets areas for development.

Charity Celebrations

Wiedemann UK’s 20th Anniversary charity Terra Spike has found a home at Ombersley.

In September at Saires, David Rae, Wiedemann UK’s Managing Director launched a charity auction among Wiedemann dealers to recognise that the fledging company he started as a 24-year-old had come of age.

Donating a one-off version of Wiedemann’s newest and fastest selling aerator – painted the 20th anniversary ‘colour’ platinum – was his way of ‘giving something back’.

The bespoke Terra Spike GX88 HD was won ‘initially’ by dealer T H White of Redditch. Alan Wright, T H White Key Accounts Sales Manager, said: “From the outset T H White was keen to be involved. Even when times are tight, charity can’t be forgotten.”

The Redditch team then found a home in the Downy family who head up Ombersley GC just outside Kidderminster.

Andrew Halfpenny, Course Manager at Ombersley said: “We were looking for a deep fast aerator that would perform on greens and tees yet still suit our fairways. Guided by T H White’s, Simon Bingham, we had established that the Wiedemann GX88 HD was the one. Nothing matched it for speed or versatility. “After Saires I read in the trade press about the platinum machine and it struck a chord. Uncannily Wiedemann UK was launched within the same time frame as Ombersley. “It made me wonder... Within a matter of a few weeks the sale had happened and all the pieces just fitted naturally.”

The benefiting charities are Cancer Research UK and The Multiple Sclerosis Society who will both share a donation in excess of £20,000.

Representatives of both attended a special presentation event at the Worcestershire club.

Etesia UK will shortly be hitting the road, after announcing the dates of their first road show since 2006, with an emphasis on all things green.

The 2012 Green Technology Show series kicks off on Tuesday, March 27, at Merrist Wood College.

Machines will be on, and drive event for all new and existing Etesia and Pellenc customers, the road show will then move on to Edge Hill University, Lancashire on Thursday, March 29, with further dates to be arranged for later in the year.

“Previous road shows we’ve held have been highly successful and extremely well-attended,” said Les Malin, Etesia UK’s General Manager.

Anyone keen to come along should contact their local dealer to book a place, or alternatively, you can register your interest by visiting www.etesia.co.uk/roadshow.

What’s your number?

Our regular and prominent profile of an industry figure continues with this month’s lucky number...

Name: Andy Cole
Company: STRI Ltd
Position: Head of Stadium Services

How long have you been in the industry? Twenty-five years

How did you get into it? I was lucky. Graduated from Leeds University in 1986, where STRI had a research programme and noticed an advertisement for a trainee agronomist.

What other jobs have you done? During my university days the usual restaurant and bar work and had two summers working in a market garden – nothing turf related at all.

What do you like about your current job? The variety of the work is exciting and working at the top level with FIPA and UEFA. I get a lot of satisfaction working as part of a team to deliver a project.

What changes have you seen during your time in the industry? Training and education have improved immensely in the last 25 years. The industry has become professional and greenkeepers are generally more respected for their knowledge and expertise.

What do you like to do in your spare time? I’m a keen golfer and during the last four years my wife and I enjoy ballroom dancing – Strictly Come Dancing has a lot to answer for!

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time? If the last 20 years are measures I want to continue enjoying the work I do and sharing my experiences across the globe.

Who do you consider to be your best friends in the industry? I have so many friends in the industry it would be impossible to single out one individual.

What do you consider to be your lucky number? 7

What’s YOUR number?

If you are an industry figure and would like to appear in this column – or at least be in a chance of being pulled out of the hat – get in touch with Scott... 01347 833800 Option 510

Super Bent Varieties

British Seed Houses in the agent for Super Bent varieties 007DSB and TYEE in Sweden, Denmark and Norway, where climates offer some of the most severe weather seen on the golf course, and where the varieties perform extremely well.

Richard Brown recently visited Sweden and gave a seminar outlining the strengths of these varieties for challenging conditions.

“As I explained to delegates at our Swedish seminar, the bentgrass varieties 007DSB and TYEE become known as ‘Super Bent’ simply because they far exceed the overall turf performance that one would expect from traditional bent varieties,” he said.

The key to the success of both these varieties is an aggressive root system and advanced sowing techniques.

Huxley Gem has found a home at Ombersley. Andrew Halfpenny, Course Manager at Ombersley said: “We were looking for a deep fast aerator that would perform on greens and tees yet still suit our fairways. Guided by T H White’s, Simon Bingham, we had established that the Wiedemann GX88 HD was the one. Nothing matched it for speed or versatility. “After Saires I read in the trade press about the platinum machine and it struck a chord. Uncannily Wiedemann UK was launched within the same time frame as Ombersley. “It made me wonder... Within a matter of a few weeks the sale had happened and all the pieces just fitted naturally.”

The benefiting charities are Cancer Research UK and The Multiple Sclerosis Society who will both share a donation in excess of £20,000.

Representatives of both attended a special presentation event at the Worcestershire club.

Etesia UK will shortly be hitting the road, after announcing the dates of their first road show since 2006, with an emphasis on all things green.

The 2012 Green Technology Show series kicks off on Tuesday, March 27, at Merrist Wood College.

Machines will be on, and drive event for all new and existing Etesia and Pellenc customers, the road show will then move on to Edge Hill University, Lancashire on Thursday, March 29, with further dates to be arranged for later in the year.

“Previous road shows we’ve held have been highly successful and extremely well-attended,” said Les Malin, Etesia UK’s General Manager.

Anyone keen to come along should contact their local dealer to book a place, or alternatively, you can register your interest by visiting www.etesia.co.uk/roadshow.

What’s your number?

Our regular and prominent profile of an industry figure continues with this month’s lucky number...

Name: Andy Cole
Company: STRI Ltd
Position: Head of Stadium Services

How long have you been in the industry? Twenty-five years

How did you get into it? I was lucky. Graduated from Leeds University in 1986, where STRI had a research programme and noticed an advertisement for a trainee agronomist.

What other jobs have you done? During my university days the usual restaurant and bar work and had two summers working in a market garden – nothing turf related at all.

What do you like about your current job? The variety of the work is exciting and working at the top level with FIPA and UEFA. I get a lot of satisfaction working as part of a team to deliver a project.

What changes have you seen during your time in the industry? Training and education have improved immensely in the last 25 years. The industry has become professional and greenkeepers are generally more respected for their knowledge and expertise.

What do you like to do in your spare time? I’m a keen golfer and during the last four years my wife and I enjoy ballroom dancing – Strictly Come Dancing has a lot to answer for!

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time? If the last 20 years are measures I want to continue enjoying the work I do and sharing my experiences across the globe.

Who do you consider to be your best friends in the industry? I have so many friends in the industry it would be impossible to single out one individual.

What do you consider to be your lucky number? 7

What’s YOUR number?

If you are an industry figure and would like to appear in this column – or at least be in a chance of being pulled out of the hat – get in touch with Scott... 01347 833800 Option 510

What should you do next?

• Where do you see yourself in five years?

• How have you been in the industry?

• How did you get into it?

• What do you like about your current job?

• What changes have you seen during your time in the industry?

• What do you like to do in your spare time?

• Where do you see yourself in 10 years time?

• Who do you consider to be your best friends in the industry?

• What do you consider to be your lucky number?

• What’s your number?

If you are an industry figure and would like to appear in this column – or at least be in a chance of being pulled out of the hat – get in touch with Scott... 01347 833800 Option 510

What’s YOUR number?

If you are an industry figure and would like to appear in this column – or at least be in a chance of being pulled out of the hat – get in touch with Scott... 01347 833800 Option 510

What’s your number?
Head Greenkeeper at from a range of speakers and drained platforms. rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.

This development was officially opened in April 2011 and comprises four full sized sports pitches designed for winter soccer or rugby use on two engineered designed for winter soccer or 2011 and comprises four on Wednesday, March 21. at Ballafletcher Sports Club attend a Turf Care Seminar of Man an opportunity to greenkeepers on the Isle giving groundsmen and Dennis and Sisis are taking to the road again. This time they are giving groundmen and greenkeepers on the Isle of Man an opportunity to attend a Turf Care Seminar at Ballafletcher Sports Club on Wednesday, March 21.
Six months from now the world of sport will have turned its attention away from the Olympics and will be focussed firmly on Medinah Country Club, in Chicago, and the Ryder Cup. Golf fans, general sports fans, even non sports fans, will be kept enthralled as fortunes sway throughout the three days and 28 matches, but among the most interested observers will be the members of Moortown Golf Club which played host to the first Ryder Cup on this side of the Atlantic in 1929.

The razzmatazz which surrounds the most recent playings of the Ryder Cup wasn't quite the same at Moortown in Leeds, West Yorkshire, that May, but golfing aficionados of the time would have been extremely impressed that the American team containing such legendary figures as Gene Sarazen, Walter Hagen, Horton Smith and Leo Diegel was beaten 7-5 to level the series at one all. The British team containing, among others Henry Cotton, Abe Mitchell, George Duncan and the Whitcombe brothers, came from 2.5 – 1.5 down in the Foursomes to win the Singles 5.5 to 2.5.

If, prior to settling down in front of the TV to watch the latest chapter in the Ryder Cup saga, the Moortown members decide to play a few holes they will do so on a course which has been modified and modernised, yet returned to the style created by Leeds Doctor, Alistair MacKenzie, who honed his skills in the UK and Australia before heading to the US and designing Augusta National and Cypress Point.

The Club has worked closely with architect Ken Moodie, a man who has studied MacKenzie thoroughly - travelling far and wide to experience golf courses first hand and reading everything the great man wrote on the subject of golf course design. He has also worked at other MacKenzie courses including Moortown’s near neighbour, Alwoodley, putting that knowledge to good use.

Ken was originally brought in by Moortown in 2004, along with namesake, former Ryder Cup player and now BBC television commentator, Ken Brown, and woodland management expert, John Nicholson, with the brief of improving the challenge for the better golfer. Over time that remit has expanded and the current work includes an extensive bunker renovation and the remodelling of two holes – the 6th and 7th – which will be concluded this spring.

“The impetus for the more recent work coincided with the arrival of Course Manager, Steve Robinson, and some key members of the Moortown Committee visiting other MacKenzie courses, including Cypress Point and Pasatiempo Golf Club, in California.

“They have seen the restoration work that has been done on those courses, as have I, and we wanted to do the same with Moortown,” explained Ken. MacKenzie styling includes very distinctive kner noses on bunkers and much more intricate and interesting shapes, and the work has been carried out in-house with the assistance of a freelance shaper ensuring that Ken’s plans make the transition from paper to play.

The results so far are stunning. As a starting point Ken had acquired a 1948 aerial photograph

“In war times, I don’t think that the course would have changed much since MacKenzie last visited for the Ryder Cup in 1929” Ken Moodie, Architect

Scott MacCallum visits Moortown Golf Club, which hosted the first Ryder Cup match on this side of the Atlantic, and discovers a restoration project which is returning the course to its best
Back to the future

Scott MacCallum visits Moortown Golf Club, which hosted the first Ryder Cup match on this side of the Atlantic, and discovers a restoration project which is returning the course to its best

Six months from now the world of sport will have turned its attention away from the Olympics and will be focussed firmly on Medinah Country Club, in Chicago, and the Ryder Cup. Golf fans, general sports fans, even non sports fans, will be kept enthralled as fortunes sway throughout the three days and 28 matches, but among the most interested observers will be the members of Moortown Golf Club which played host to the first Ryder Cup on this side of the Atlantic in 1929.

The razzmatazz which surrounds the most recent playings of the Ryder Cup wasn’t quite the same at Moortown in Leeds, West Yorkshire, that May, but golfing aficionados of the time would have been extremely impressed that the American team containing such legendary figures as Gene Sarazen, Walter Hagen, Horton Smith and Leo Diegel was beaten 7–5 to level the series at one all. The British team containing, among others Henry Cotton, Abe Mitchell, George Duncan and the Whitcombe brothers, came from 2.5 – 1.5 down in the Foursomes to win the Singles 5.5 to 2.5.

If, prior to settling down in front of the TV to watch the latest chapter in the Ryder Cup saga, the Moortown members decide to play a few holes they will do so on a course which has been modified and modernised, yet returned to the style created by Leeds Doctor, Alistair MacKenzie, who honed his skills in the UK and Australia before heading to the US and designing Augusta National and Cypress Point.

The Club has worked closely with architect Ken Moodie, a man who has studied MacKenzie thoroughly - travelling far and wide to experience golf courses first hand and reading everything the great man wrote on the subject of golf course design. He has also worked at other MacKenzie courses including Moortown’s near neighbour, Alwoodley, putting that knowledge to good use.

Ken was originally brought in by Moortown in 2004, along with namesake, former Ryder Cup player and now BBC television commentator, Ken Brown, and woodland management expert, John Nicholson, with the brief of improving the challenge for the better golfer. Over time that remit has expanded and the current work includes an extensive bunker renovation and the remodelling of two holes – the 6th and 7th – which will be concluded this spring.

“The impetus for the more recent work coincided with the arrival of Course Manager, Steve Robinson, and some key members of the Moortown Committee visiting other MacKenzie courses, including Cypress Point and Pasatiempo Golf Club, in California.

“They have seen the restoration work that has been done on those courses, as have I, and we wanted to do the same with Moortown,” explained Ken.

MacKenzie styling includes very distinctive kopper noses on bunkers and much more intricate and interesting shapes, and the work has been carried out in-house with the assistance of a freelance shaper ensuring that Ken’s plans make the transition from paper to play.

The results so far are stunning. As a starting point Ken had acquired a 1948 aerial photograph...
of the golf course which had been taken by the RAF when they flew the country after the war.

“I don’t think that the course would have changed much from when MacKenzie had last visited for the Ryder Cup in ’29 to then, so we could be fairly sure that it was close to his original design,” he explained.

Steve arrived at the club five years ago from Blackmoor, in Hampshire, where he had managed a similar renovation programme.

“After the War, to cut down on costs, many bunkers were filled in and we earmarked where many of these were,” explained Steve, who also added that there were some large “waste area” bunkers for which it would have been a step to far to re-produce, while others were in areas which would no longer be in play.

“Since I started in 2007 we’ve filled in four bunkers and built 29. We’ve gone from 66 to 91,” he revealed.

Steve and the club took the decision that they would undertake the bunker rebuilding work in-house aided by a locally based freelance shaper.

“We felt that given our particular situation with peat subsoil and our weather conditions that it was better to employ a freelance shaper who I could call on, once I’ve checked the weather forecast for the following day, rather than being charged for big plant and men not being able to work because the conditions don’t allow it, which is a downside of employing an outside contractor,” said Steve, who added that his team were doing a superb job and that their skills levels were rising all the time.

“It’s not purely the cost, it’s the damage that can be incurred when you feel obliged to let the work go ahead rather than have men and machines sitting idle.”

The outcome has been that the team has done a great deal of the work by hand which has been very much in keeping with the MacKenzie style and it has meant that skills have developed.

They have also derived great satisfaction from beginning work on what would be a reinstated bunker, which Ken had sited using evidence from the aerial photograph, and discovering sand which had been there since the days of the original bunker.

“It’s a bit like archaeology – Time Team stuff,” said Ken, who is on site at least once a week during the project.

The Moortown soil structure has caused them a few issues however.

Mackenzie styling includes very distinctive longer noses on bunkers and much more intricate and interesting shapes, ensuring that Ken Moodie’s plans make the transition from paper to play.
of the golf course which had been taken by the RAF when they flew the country after the war.

“I don’t think that the course would have changed much from when MacKenzie had last visited for the Ryder Cup in ’29 to then, so we could be fairly sure that it was close to his original design,” he explained.

Steve arrived at the club five years ago from Blackmoor, in Hampshire, where he had managed a similar renovation programme.

“After the War, to cut down on costs, many bunkers were filled in and we earmarked where many of these were,” explained Steve, who also added that there were some large “waste area” bunkers for which it would have been a step to far to re-produce, while others were in areas which would no longer be in play.

“Since I started in 2007 we’ve filled in four bunkers and built 29. We’ve gone from 66 to 91,” he revealed.

Steve and the club took the decision that they would undertake the bunker rebuilding work in-house aided by a locally based freelance shaper.

“We felt that given our particular situation with peat subsoil and our weather conditions that it was better to employ a freelance shaper who I could call on, once I’ve checked the weather forecast for the following day, rather than being charged for big plant and men not being able to work because the conditions don’t allow it, which is a downside of employing an outside contractor,” said Steve, who added that his team were doing a superb job and that their skills levels were rising all the time.

“The outcome has been that the team has done a great deal of the work by hand which has been very much in keeping with the MacKenzie style and it has meant that skills have developed.

They have also derived great satisfaction from beginning work on what would be a reinstated bunker, which Ken had sited using evidence from the aerial photograph, and discovering sand which had been there since the days of the original bunker.

“It’s a bit like archaeology – Time Team stuff,” said Ken, who is on site at least once a week during the project.

The Moortown soil structure has caused them a few issues however.

Mackenzie styling includes very distinctive longer noses on bunkers and much more intricate and interesting shapes, ensuring that Ken Moodie’s plans make the transition from paper to play.
“We are built on peat and we would have situations were the whole base of a bunker would be on the move,” explained Steve. “We would dig out a bunker but if it rained between Ken’s visits it meant that the team had to wade into bunkers, which resembled duck ponds, to dig them out. We got pictures of the guys in wellies and waterproof clothing taking bucketfuls of what looks like peat soup out and decanting it into Pro Gators. It was stagnant horrible stuff.

“If Ken said he wanted it another four inches deeper we’d then need to go down that, plus an extra four or five inches to accommodate the several inches of angular 25mm-40mm stone which we’d discovered was the best way to firm up the bunker,” said Steve.

Ken wasn’t unsympathetic, however, and worked with both the land and the crew to find solutions. “We compromised on some of the bunker depths and built up the banks a bit higher instead. What we are trying to do has got to be achievable and you have to create something that is going to work in the long term. I’m sure MacKenzie

“We compromised on some of the bunker depths and built up the banks a bit higher instead. What we are trying to do has got to be achievable and you have to create something that is going to work in the long term. I’m sure MacKenzie...
“We are built on peat and we would have situations were the whole base of a bunker would be on the move,” explained Steve.

“We would dig out a bunker but if it rained between Ken’s visits it meant that the team had to wade into bunkers, which resembled duck ponds, to dig them out. We got pictures of the guys in wellies and waterproof clothing taking bucketfuls of what looks like peat soup out and decreeing it into Pro Gators. It was stagnant horrible stuff.

“If Ken said he wanted it another four inches deeper we’d then need to go down that, plus an extra four or five inches to accommodate the several inches of angular 25mm-40mm stone which we’d discovered was the best way to firm up the bunker,” said Steve.

Ken wasn’t unsympathetic, however, and worked with both the land and the crew to find solutions.

“We compromised on some of the bunker depths and built up the banks a bit higher instead. What we are trying to do has got to be achievable and you have to create something that is going to work in the long term. I’m sure MacKenzie
would have done the same,” said Ken.

Part of the project is the re-
designing of the 6th and 7th holes, which have long been recognised as the weakest on the course. They had been a late addition in the late 80s and early 90s, following boundary issues and the removal of other holes on the edge of the course, but restrictions in place at the time meant there was a limit and replaced with wonderful new bunkering will be up the holes in keeping with the moorland nature of the rest of the course while at the same time conforming to Forestry Commission demands.

The new holes will benefit from the removal of trees and the introduction of heather which will open up the holes in keeping with the other 16. The new bunkering will also blend in with the others.

Indeed, a couple of days earlier a beech tree had been removed from the side of the 7th green and replaced with wonderful new bunkers.

“The club acquired a felling licence last year and we work closely with the Forestry Commission to ensure that they are comfortable with everything that is being done,” explained John, who also has some interesting views of gorse.

“The reason we’ve got gorse on these courses is that it was introduced in the Middle Ages as fodder for livestock. Women and children collected it in the summer and made it into a rich porridge for their animals. It was man-made and imported from Spain and it has become very invasive and is now probably the biggest danger, along with trees, to the heathland/moorland environment,” he explained, adding that they had already taken out a lot of gorse at Moortown.

When assessing a site John considers the agronomic, strategic and the ecological elements but there is another issue which takes precedence.

“The genius loci – the spirit of the place – is what you’ve got to assess on day one. You’ve got to take on board that whatever we do has to be in keeping with the landscape.”

As we spoke the construction work was around 50% completed but Steve was well aware that it would take time for the results of much of what has been done to come through.

“Members do appreciate that trees can have a negative impact on keeping and introducing heather, but they also think that once the trees have been removed the heather will come back on its own.

“They don’t always realise that the tree removal is only the first stage and that it still requires work to bring back the heather. We scrape back the soil to expose dormant heather seed, some of which have been buried for 90 years.

“You can be looking at a mini

“After visiting MacKenzie courses, Cypress Point and Pasatiempo Golf Club, in California, and seeing the restoration work that has been done on those courses, we wanted to do the same with Moortown”

Ken Moodie, Architect (left) who is remodelling the 7th hole (as shown) made decisions on the golf course and while a lot of them are good ideas, it can be more haphazard than bringing in professionals, who can take all considerations on board,” explained Ken.

With its rich heritage and unique link with the Ryder Cup the Moor-
town members have taken the deci-ison to embrace the professional advice they have been given.

Those interested in all things Ryder Cup, who choose to visit Moortown in this year of the latest match, will receive a warm welcome as well as a wonderful opportunity to play an updated version of the course which faced Cotton, Duncan, Sanz and Hagen.
would have done the same,” said Ken.

Part of the project is the re-designing of the 6th and 7th holes, which have long been recognised as the weakest on the course. They had been a late addition in the late 80s and early 90s, following boundary issues and the removal of other holes on the edge of the course, but restrictions in place at the time meant there was a limit to what could be achieved by the replacements.

John Nicholson has been instrumental in ensuring that the work required to create the new holes is in keeping with the heathland/moorland nature of the rest of the course while at the same time conforming to Forestry Commission demands.

The new holes will benefit from the removal of trees and the introduction of heather which will open out a lot of gorse at Moortown.

Moodie (main below) and main right: the 7th as shown

Inset below: the 7th (before)

When assessing a site John considers the agronomic, strategic and the ecological elements but there is another issue which takes precedence.

“The genius loci – the spirit of the place – is what you’ve got to assess on day one. You’ve got to take on board that whatever we do has to blend in with the others.

Indeed, a couple of days earlier a beech tree had been removed from the side of the 7th green and made it into a rich porridge for their animals. It was man-made and imported from Spain and it has become very invasive and is now probably the biggest danger, along with trees, to the heathland/moorland environment,” he explained, adding that they had already taken out a lot of gorse at Moortown.

When assessing a site John considers the agronomic, strategic and the ecological elements but there is another issue which takes precedence.

“You can be looking at a mini-mother of two to three years before you see results. It’s not like growing grass,” said Steve, who has learned to highlight out of play areas for the initial plots.

“What we do know is that the tees are then GUR for a long period of time you will get members coming up to you in 18 months saying, ‘It’s still not happening, forget it. It’s not going to work,’” said Steve, who carries the confidence of knowing that similar work at Blackmoor produced the results and that patience is rewarded.

“So what does the third man in the Ken Moodie, John Nicholson, Ken Brown partnership think. As the only one to have actually played in a Ryder Cup Ken brings a professional golfer’s eye to a project, and the experience of having broadcast from 100s of the world’s finest golf courses.

“There are three ways of undertaking a project – restoration, renovation or revolution – but by far the best approach is restoration,” said Ken, who was key in determining the position of the bunkers on the two redesigned holes.

“That is a task which is not as straightforward as the average golfer may believe as Ken is very aware that the one piece of kit not possessed by any golfer or archi-
The increasing scope and spread of turf fertiliser in concept and composition is of general benefit to grass and greenkeepers alike. New considerations have nudged the industry away from reliance on traditional short-term, stand-alone quick fix solutions scooped out of the sack, into a longer-term and more broadly based holistic approach.

Being in harmony with the complexity of subterranean and soil surface bio-systems and food webs concentrated in the root zone and thatch is the name of the contemporary game in turf grass nutrition. Soil associated food webs deliver plant-available nutrients in a natural and therefore measured and sustainable way.

Attention paid to pathogenic microbes and invertebrate pest animals has re-focused onto environmentally friendly relatives which if present in sufficient number and the right balance, go the argument, help to neutralise ‘nasty’ turf grass pathogens and insect and nematode pests. Essential plant nutrients released at key points around the food web and immediately available to grass roots is the complementary and interactive benefit.

**Plant nutrition the natural way**

Fertilising with the flow of natural soil bio-systems should underpin the nutrition and health of any grass sward whether amenity or agriculture. They incorporate friendly fungi such as mycorrhizae, saprophytic and antagonist fungi, beneficial bacteria including decomposers and entomopathogens [parasitic on insect pests] and other microbial decomposers (protozoa), and the host of invertebrate animals (insects, other arthropods, molluscs, annelids [earthworms] and nematodes), both plant feeders and entomopathogens, most of which chomp away on organic and/or mineral matter and thereby contribute directly or indirectly to improved soil structure and fertility.

Natural soil bio-systems occur and operate at full power in well-structured fertile loams, but the substrates used to establish and support most golfing greens are far...
The increasing scope and spread of turf fertiliser in concept and composition is of general benefit to grass and greenkeepers alike. New considerations have nudged the industry away from reliance on traditional short-term, stand-alone quick fix solutions scooped out of the sack, into a longer-term and more broadly based holistic approach.

Being in harmony with the complexity of subterranean and soil surface bio-systems and food webs concentrated in the root zone and thatch is the name of the contemporary game in turfgrass nutrition. Soil associated food webs deliver plant-available nutrients in a natural and therefore measured and sustainable way.

Attention paid to pathogenic microbes and invertebrate pest animals has re-focused onto environmentally friendly relatives which if present in sufficient number and the right balance, goes the argument, help to neuter ‘nasty’ turfgrass pathogens and insect and nematode pests. Essential plant nutrients released at key points around the food web and immediately available to grass roots is the complementary and interactive benefit.

Plant nutrition the natural way

Fertilising with the flow of natural soil bio-systems should underpin the nutrition and health of any grass sward whether amenity or agriculture. They incorporate friendly fungi such as mycorrhizae, saprophytic and antagonistic fungi, beneficial bacteria including decomposers and entomopathogens (parasitic on insect pests) and other microbial decomposers (protozoa), and the host of invertebrate animals (insects, other arthropods, molluscs, annelids [earthworms] and nematodes), both plant feeders and entomopathogens, most of which chomp away on organic and/or mineral matter and thereby contribute directly or indirectly to improved soil structure and fertility.

Natural soil bio-systems occur and operate at full power in well-structured fertile loams, but the substrates used to establish and support most golfing greens are far from ideal. The increasing scope and spread of turf fertiliser in concept and composition is of general benefit to grass and greenkeepers alike. New considerations have nudged the industry away from reliance on traditional short-term, stand-alone quick fix solutions scooped out of the sack, into a longer-term and more broadly based holistic approach.

Being in harmony with the complexity of subterranean and soil surface bio-systems and food webs concentrated in the root zone and thatch is the name of the contemporary game in turfgrass nutrition. Soil associated food webs deliver plant-available nutrients in a natural and therefore measured and sustainable way.

Attention paid to pathogenic microbes and invertebrate pest animals has re-focused onto environmentally friendly relatives which if present in sufficient number and the right balance, goes the argument, help to neuter ‘nasty’ turfgrass pathogens and insect and nematode pests. Essential plant nutrients released at key points around the food web and immediately available to grass roots is the complementary and interactive benefit.

Plant nutrition the natural way

Fertilising with the flow of natural soil bio-systems should underpin the nutrition and health of any grass sward whether amenity or agriculture. They incorporate friendly fungi such as mycorrhizae, saprophytic and antagonistic fungi, beneficial bacteria including decomposers and entomopathogens (parasitic on insect pests) and other microbial decomposers (protozoa), and the host of invertebrate animals (insects, other arthropods, molluscs, annelids [earthworms] and nematodes), both plant feeders and entomopathogens, most of which chomp away on organic and/or mineral matter and thereby contribute directly or indirectly to improved soil structure and fertility.

Natural soil bio-systems occur and operate at full power in well-structured fertile loams, but the substrates used to establish and support most golfing greens are far from ideal.
Nutrition

Losing the essentials of plant nutrition

As humate derivatives act as reservoirs and anticipated. Soil supplements benefits derived are accordingly systems and food webs then the benefits derived are accordingly reduced from what was perceived and anticipated. Soil supplements as humate derivatives act as reservoirs of nutrients and vehicles for their delivery and availability and uptake through bio-stimulatory effects on soil microbes and grass plants. However, without an inherent and appropriate soil structure there is a limit to what they can achieve.

Losing the essentials of plant nutrition

New concepts in turf grass nutrition and health are becoming as complex as the food webs they aim to flow with and here lies a danger of losing sight of the critical importance of individually essential plant nutrients to root health and development, whether of bent grass or beech trees, through to being able to see the wood for the trees.

Turf grasses are simple green plants but do the job they are designed for, creating a uniform planar and cushiony playing surface which is easily and effectively maintained because turf grasses respond well to frequent close cutting. Grass is a chlorophyll-containing plant that traps light energy and converts it into chemical energy for growth and maintenance via a complex series of enzyme-controlled reactions collectively known as photosynthesis. This requires a portfolio of plant nutrients, each essential in its own right and as part of the whole in balance with others.

At the end of the day it doesn’t actually matter what form of fertilizer is used, and how it is applied, because if the grass sward cannot access the full portfolio of plant nutrients in the right quantities and balance it will fail to perform as professional turf.

Essential turf grass nutrients

Essential nutrients for green plants like grasses are macronutrients (Nitrogen [N]; Phosphorus [P]; Potassium [K]) or micronutrients (Zinc [Zn]; Copper [Cu]; Iron [Fe]; Molybdenum [Mo]; Boron [B]) depending on the exact quantity required for optimum grass growth and development. In the middle are several other essential nutrients such as Sulphur, Calcium [Ca], and Magnesium [Mg] sometimes referred to as secondary nutrients. These are required in much lower amounts than macronutrients but in considerably higher quantities than micronutrients, which are alternatively called trace elements.

The portfolio of plant nutrients essential for optimum growth, health, vigour and resilience of turf is generally well known, but less well appreciated is the profile of its functions. The best way to appreciate the role of each essential plant nutrient is to recall the reasons why greenkeepers have traditionally applied a particular nutrient during a particular season or at a specific time during the golfing calendar, or equally why they have not.

Nitrogen – the succulent growth and green up nutrient

Nitrogen is required in greater amounts than any other nutrient. On a dry weight basis (grass dried to zero moisture) nitrogen accounts for 3-5% of plant matter. Nitrogen is at the very heart of grass plant genetics and physiology being a component of DNA, chlorophyll and every single amino acid used to build proteins for growth. Effect of nitrogen application is accordingly fast and furious with plants assuming a rich dark green colour and a spurt of vertical shoot growth.

Nitrogen promotes leaf growth and enhances turf density by promoting tillering. When balanced with phosphorus, nitrogen boosts root development and turf recovery from adverse conditions. Autumn applications in balance with potassium produce overall growth that should be sufficiently tough to withstand winter conditions.

Phosphorus – the anchorage element

Phosphorus is the ‘anchorage’ element spurring on root growth and development. Phosphorus is generally required in only limited amounts but more liberally when new turf is established by seeding or laying sod. Phosphorus is important early in the season when turf responds quickly and substantially to warmer temperatures and therefore requires rapid and sustained root development to anchor and underpin turf and leaf growth. PKP formulations used at this time should have relatively high ratios of phosphorus.

Potassium – the gatekeeper nutrient

Potassium is commonly called the ‘gatekeeper’ nutrient because it controls the opening and closing of stomata on grass leaves and therefore the amounts of water lost by transpiration and carbon dioxide diffusing in for photosynthesis. Sufficient potassium is essential for good drought resistance. Potassium hardens turf against adverse conditions whether summer heat and drought, or winter cold.

Calcium – the strongman nutrient

Calcium pectate cements plant cell walls to form plant tissues and is therefore central to the structure and anatomy of turf grass plants. Together with magnesium, potassium and iron, calcium is known as a hardening and resilience nutrient.

Magnesium – the lightening conductor

Magnesium literally at the centre of the chlorophyll molecule is correspondingly central to photosynthesis. Without magnesium there is no chlorophyll to trap sunlight. Leaf growth without its natural rich green colour and the ability to power its physiology.

Sulphur – the forgotten element

Sulphur was often called the ‘forgotten’ element because greenkeepers (like farmers) traditionally received free sulphur spewed from power-station and factory chimneys. The ‘de-greening’ of plants, which rapidly became deficient in sulphur, rapidly followed the ‘greening’ of industry. Yellowing symptoms were confused at first with nitrogen deficiency. Wheat, a major contributor of the turf grasses, was the first to signal this change and show sulphur deficiency symptoms.

Iron – the lean and mean green up nutrient

Major roles in chlorophyll synthesis and nitrogen metabolism allow iron to grow up turf without the soft succulent leaf and shoot growth associated with nitrogen. Iron is therefore ideal as an autumn or winter turf tonic.

Copper, zinc and manganese – the enzyme co-factors

These are classic metallic micro-nutrients required in trace amounts as co-factors for optimum activity of specific enzymes. Copper
Losing the essentials of plant and anticipated. Soil supplements reduced from what was perceived and activity of soil associated bio-
unable to support the full spectrum sand there is below.


Turf grasses are simple green plants but do the job they are designed for, creating a uniform planar and cushiony playing surface which is easily and effectively maintained because turf grasses respond well to frequent close cutting. Grass is a chlorophyll-containing plant that traps light energy and converts it into chemical energy for growth and maintenance via a complex series of enzyme controlled reactions collectively known as photosynthesis. This requires a portfolio of plant nutrients, each essential in its own right and as part of the whole in balance with others. At the end of the day it doesn’t actually matter what form of fertiliser is used, and how it is applied, because if the grass sward cannot access the full portfolio of plant nutrients in the right quantities and balance it will fail to perform as professional turf.

Essential turf grass nutrients


Sulphur – the forgotten element

Sulphur was often called the ‘forgotten’ element because greenkeepers (like farmers) traditionally received free sulphur spewed from power-station and factory chimneys. The ‘de-greening’ of plants, which rapidly became deficient in sulphur, rapidly followed the ‘greening’ of industry. Yellowing symptoms were confused at first with nitrogen deficiency. Wheat, a ‘crop’ relative of the turf grasses, was the first to signal this change and show sulphur deficiency symptoms.

Iron – the lean and mean green-up nutrient

Major roles in chlorophyll synthesis and nitrogen metabolism allow iron to grow up turf without the soft succulent leaf and shoot growth associated with nitrogen. Iron is therefore ideal as an autumn or winter turf tonic.

Copper, zinc and manganese – the enzyme co-factors

These are classic metallic micro-nutrients required in trace amounts as co-factors for optimum activity of specific enzymes. Copper...
Boron – the meristem minder
Boron is one of the most ‘micro’ of all micronutrients but nevertheless plays a critical role in ensuring rapid sustained cell division in apical meristems where shoot and root growth occurs.

Molybdenum – the metabolism maker
The micro-nutrient with major roles in both nitrogen and phosphorous metabolism

By-passing the soil
The soil is a dangerous place for plant nutrients and an obstacle-strewn course illustrated clearly by the potential fate of the three macronutrients (N, P and K). Nitrogen can be applied and made available as either NO₃⁻ or NH₄⁺. NO₃⁻ as a negatively charged anion. It is not attracted to soil colloids and therefore cannot be held and stored on cation exchange sites. Cation exchange sites are in relatively short supply in the typical sand-based soils that support professional sports turf.

High permeability of sandy soils coupled with a relatively low cation exchange capacity means nitrate is prone to heavy leaching. Heavy summer rain, or irrigation, run off the surface carrying any soluble nutrients along with it.

Phosphorous availability is very susceptible to changes in soil pH. When pH levels fall below 6 (increasingly acid), or raise much above 7 (becoming alkaline), soil phosphorous becomes ‘fixed’ tied up and unavailable for uptake by grass roots.

Clearly there is not much leeway and phosphorous unavailability is one of the first casualties of inappropriate liming.

Potassium levels in soil under turf should be monitored closely and topped up as required because the positively charged cation (K⁺) is particularly prone to leaching from sandy soils with their inherently low cation exchange capacities. There is one easy way to avoid all these potential hurdles to soil nutrient availability – reach for the bottle instead of the bag and opt for foliar feeding by spraying with an appropriate nutrient solution.

Experience NEW standards of performance...
“Greens treated with Qualibra were clearly healthier and provided better playing surfaces.”
Ian Coote
Rosary Golf Club, Herts

“From what I have seen, using Qualibra would mean I may only need to irrigate once a week – a big saving in time and money.”
Glenn Rayfield
Fellside Ferry Golf Club, Suffolk

“Where we had sprayed Qualibra there has been a marked and sustained improvement in sward quality.”
Philip Baldock
Clanton Golf Club, Yorkshire

Fertiliser in balance and perspective
Turf managers should always go as far down the ‘fostering the food-web’ track as possible, but not rule out the use of rapid remedial action where necessary.

Sports turf is a completely unnatural ecosystem both above and below ground and correspondingly less able to maintain long-term stability both nutritionally and in health without at least some short-term quick-fix interventions.

Fertilisation of turf is all a question of balance but in more ways than one.

Applied plant nutrients should always be in balance with each other, according to their intrinsic relative status and turf requirements at particular times of the calendar year and golfing season.

Everything should be done to maintain the natural biological balance in the root zone and thatch while being prepared to weigh this up with quick-fix interventions if necessary, and avoid being convinced that everything out of a bag or a bottle is bad.
is a co-factor for the enzyme poly-
phenol oxidase.

Boron – the meristem minder

Boron is one of the most ‘micro’
of all micronutrients but neverthe-
less plays a critical role in ensuring
rapid sustained cell division in
apical meristems where shoot and
root growth occurs.

Molybdenum – the metabolism
maker

The micro-nutrient with major
roles in both nitrogen and phos-
phorous metabolism

By-passing the soil

The soil is a dangerous place for
plant nutrients and an obstacle-
strum course illustrated clearly by
the potential fate of the three mac-
ronutrients (N, P and K). Nitrogen
can be applied and made available
as either NO₃⁻ or NH₄⁺. NO₃⁻ as
a negatively charged anion. It is
not attracted to soil colloids and
therefore cannot be held and stored
on cation exchange sites. Cation
exchange sites are in relatively
short supply in the typical sand-
based soils that support profes-
sional sports turf.

High permeability of sandy soils
combined with a relatively low cation
exchange capacity means nitrate
is prone to heavy leaching. Heavy
traffic building up through the
season, coupled with progressive
drying out, means summer soils
can become compacted with a
water impermeable pan. Heavy
summer rain, or irrigation, run off
the surface carrying any soluble
nitrates along with it.

Phosphorous availability is
very susceptible to changes in soil
pH. When pH levels fall below 6
(increasingly acid), or raise much
above 7 (becoming alkaline), soil
phosphorous becomes ‘fixed’ (tied
up) and unavailable for uptake by
grazing soil grasses.

Clearly there is not much leeway
and phosphorous unavailability is
one of the first casualties of inap-
propriate liming.

Potassium levels in soil under
turf should be monitored closely
and topped up as required because
the positively charged cation (K⁺) is
particularly prone to leaching from
sandy soils with their inherently
low cation exchange capacities.

There is one easy way to avoid
all these potential hurdles to soil
nutrient availability – reach for the
bottle instead of the bag and opt for
foliar feeding by spraying with an
appropriate nutrient solution.

Late summer and long shadows
is when soil compaction is most
evident and the risk of resultant
nutrient loss run-off is correspondingly
high.

Experience NEW standards
of performance...

"Greens treated with Qualibra were clearly healthier
and provided better playing surfaces."

Ian Coote
Rosston Golf Club, Herts

"From what I have seen, using Qualibra
would mean I may only
need to irrigate once a week – a big saving in
time and money."

Glenn Rayfield
Felkistowe Ferry Golf
Club, Suffolk

"Where we had sprayed Qualibra
there has been a
marked and sustained improvement
in sward quality."

Philip Baldock
Clanton Golf Club, Yorksare

Fertiliser in balance and
perspective

Turf managers should always go
as far down the ‘fostering the food-
web’ track as possible, but not rule
out the use of rapid remedial action
where necessary.

Sports turf is a completely
unnatural ecosystem both above
and below ground and corre-
spondingly less able to maintain
long-term stability both nutrition-
ally and in health without at least
some short-term quick fix interven-
tions.

Fertilisation of turf is all a ques-
tion of balance but in more ways
than one.

Applied plant nutrients should
always be in balance with each
other, according to their intrin-
sic relative status and turf
requirements at particular times
of the calendar year and golfing
season.

Everything should be done to
maintain the natural biological
balance in the root zone and thatch
while being prepared to weigh this
up with quick-fix interventions if
necessary, and avoid being con-
vinced that everything out of a bag
or a bottle is bad.

Visit www.greencast.co.uk for more information
If you have ever seen damage on turf that doesn’t fit in with the symptoms of disease, animal or insect attack, then you may have experienced the effects of nematode infestation.

Nematodes are round worms that belong to the phylum Nematoda – the second largest group of invertebrate animals after the Arthropods (insects and bugs). Over 80,000 species of nematodes have been described but scientists believe the total number of species on this planet exceeds one million! They occur in a wide variety of habitats as both free-living and parasitic species.

This article will concentrate on the plant parasitic nematodes that affect amenity turf.

The majority of plant parasitic nematodes feed on the roots of their host and can be divided into two sub-groups:

- **Endoparasite** – the nematode invades the living host, entering the root system and moving into the vascular tissue. Some species, e.g. **Root Knot Nematode**, secrete substances that modify the host plant cell disul- vices to create specialised enlarged cells to accommodate the parasites while they feed.

- **Ectoparasite** – the nematode remains outside the host and pierces the plant cells with a weapon, which is used to inject food. Many different species of nematodes are known to infest turf throughout the world. An article published in the journal ‘Biologi- gist’ in May 2008 (see references) lists 14 different species that were found in 272 turf samples taken from European soccer pitches and golf courses during 2006. These included both endo and ectoparasites.

**Listed next are the main characteristics of the more commonly found nematodes infesting turf:**

**a) Endoparasitic species**

- **The Cyst Nematode** (Heterodera spp.) causes galls or lumps, where the roots swell up. Immature nematodes move through the soil in search of a host. When they find a suitable root, they enter and inject substances that cause the cells to enlarge and produce accommodation and an on-going food source. The female nematode is fertilised inside the feeding cell where she remains and eventually dies. Her dead body becomes a swollen bag of fertilised eggs known as a cyst. As the damaged root breaks up the cyst is released into the soil where it can remain ‘dormant’ for a long time, eventually releasing the eggs and emerging juveniles.

- **The Root Knot Nematode** (Meloidogyne spp.) produces ‘knoty’ galls in the root. It bears similarity to the Cyst nematode in the way it enters and feeds in the root but it does not form an egg cyst; instead the eggs are released into the soil when the root knots break down, where they hatch and develop into juveniles. Damaged roots are often much shorter than unaffected roots.

- **The Root Lesion Nematode** (Pratylenchus) is one of the most damaging and widespread pests in agriculture. This nematode initially attacks roots from the outside, but moves through the soil and enters the root where the roots swell up. Immature nematodes move through the soil in search of a host. When they find a suitable root, they enter and inject substances that cause the cells to enlarge and produce accommodation and an on-going food source. The female nematode is fertilised inside the feeding cell where she remains and eventually dies. Her dead body becomes a swollen bag of fertilised eggs known as a cyst. As the damaged root breaks up the cyst is released into the soil where it can remain ‘dormant’ for a long time, eventually releasing the eggs and emerging juveniles.
Nematodes
in turf

Graham Paul offers you the chance to collect some BASIS points and learn some information on nematodes, the plant parasitic nematodes that affect amenity turf.

If you have ever seen damage on turf that doesn’t fit in with the symptoms of disease, animal or insect attack, then you may have experienced the effects of nematode infestation.

Nematodes are round worms that belong to the phylum Nematoda – the second largest group of invertebrate animals after the Arthropods (Insects and bugs). Over 80,000 species of nematodes have been described but scientists believe the total number of species on this planet exceeds one million! They occur in a wide variety of habitats existing as both free-living and parasitic species. This article will concentrate on the plant parasitic nematodes that affect amenity turf.

The majority of plant parasitic nematodes live on the roots of their host and can be divided into two sub-groups:

**Endoparasitic** – the nematode invades the living host, entering the root system and moving into the vascular tissue. Some species, e.g. Root Knot Nematode, secrete substances that modify the host plant cell dis- tases to create specialised enlarged cells to accommodate the parasites while they feed.

**Ectoparasitic** – the nematode remains outside the host and pierces the plants cell walls to extract the cellular contents for food.

Many different species of nematodes are known to infest turf throughout the world. An article published in the journal ‘Biologi- gist’ in May 2008 (see references) lists 14 different species that were found in 272 turf samples taken from European soccer pitches and golf courses during 2006. These included both endo and ectoparasites.

**Listed next are the main characteristics of the more commonly found nematodes infesting turf:**

**a) Endoparasitic species**

- **The Cyst Nematode Het- erodera spp.** causes galls or lumps where the roots swell up. Immature nematodes move through the soil in search of a host. When they find a suitable root, they enter and inject substances that cause the cells to enlarge and provide accommodation and an on-going food source. The female nematode is fertilised inside the feeding cell where she remains and eventually dies. Her dead body becomes a swollen bag of fertilised eggs known as a cyst. As the damaged root breaks up the cyst is released into the soil where it can remain dormant for a long time, eventually releasing the eggs and emerging juveniles.

- **The Root Knot Nematode Meloidogyne spp.** produces ‘knoty’ galls in the root. It bears similarity to the Cyst nematode in the way it enters and feeds in the root but it does not form an egg cyst; instead the eggs are released into the soil when the root knots break down, where they hatch and develop into juveniles. Damaged roots are often much shorter than unaffected roots.

- **The Root Lesion Nematode Pratylenchus is one of the most damaging and widespread pests in agriculture. This nematode initially attacks roots from the outside, but..."
as death of the cells progresses, it moves into and through the root, destroying tissue as it goes.

b) Endoparasitic species

The Spiral Nematodes Helicotylenchus spp. & Rotylenchus spp. These nematodes typically adopt a spiral posture. They ‘graze’ around the outside of roots using a short, hollow stylet to pierce cells and feed on the contents. The cells die after the nematode is reproduced for photographs used to

The Sheath Nematode Hemicylcothryphora - so named because the adult female has a protective sheath around her body. This picture below shows the hollow stylet penetrating root cells during feeding.

The Ring Nematode Criconemella spp & Macroposthonia spp appear to be segmented like the earthworm. However, closer examination reveals this is due to corrugations of the outer cuticle.

The Stubby Root Nematode Paratrichodorus feeds from the root tips causing damage which prevents further root elongation, hence its name. The nematode pierces the roots with a solid stylet, sucking up the sap with the mouth. Stubby Root nematodes are known to transmit viruses and have a synergistic effect with Fusarium.

SYMPTOMS OF NEMATODE ATTACK ON TURF

From the surface of the turf, the visual signs of nematode infestation are fairly non-specific and depend on the severity of infestation and the species of nematode involved.

Symptoms can vary from a yellow discoloration to wilting and general thinning of the sward. The physical damage to the root system results in a reduction in wear tolerance that can devastate heavily used turf.

Damage is particularly evident with endoparasitic species such as Meloidogyne spp., the Root Knot Nematode and the severity of symptoms can be made worse by external factors such as fungal disease attack and also by low light levels that are often found in football stadia.

In the last 15 years we have seen a dramatic increase in golf construction to the USGA standard, which utilises pure sand or a high sand percentage in the rootzone, seeded with creeping bent (Agrostis stolonifera). This type of golf green has been found to be particularly susceptible to the root knot nematode Meloidogyne minor, it’s presence affecting both visual appearance and the roll of the ball as a result of turf thinning. Affected turf responds badly to routine maintenance such as aeration and feeding and the wear tolerance is greatly reduced.

Problems with nematode infestations are especially frequent in wet climates. It has been reported that in Ireland 90% of sand-based golf greens built since 1977 are infested with Meloidogyne minor. It is believed that the parasite is distributed in the sand used for construction, since it has been found to occur naturally in sand dunes all around the UK.

In many cases the presence of a nematode infestation can go unnoticed if the attack is less severe. Due to their small size examination of a soil core may not reveal the true cause.

Control of nematodes in turf

There are no chemical pesticides approved for nematode control in turf. However, a natural product based on garlic extract and sold under the brand name ‘Eagle Green Care’, has CRD approval for use on established turf in the UK.

Research has been carried out on the use of plant bio-stimulants to relieve the stress caused by nematodes feeding on the roots. Such products can improve the health and thickness of the root system and enable the grass to endure nematode attack without showing adverse visible symptoms. Of these, seaweed extracts obtained from Ascophyllum nodosum e.g. ‘Re-evolution’ appear to give the best results. Research on some soil amendment products, such as Bio-Mass sugar and mustard bran, has also revealed benefits to the health of turf that is being damaged by feeding nematodes. The effect is deemed to be similar to that experienced with the use of bio-stimulants, encouraging the development of strong roots that can help to compensate for the damage caused by the nematodes.

But, it must be stressed that these products are not authorised nema
ticides for use in reducing nematode numbers in turf.
as death of the cell progresses, it moves into and through the root, destroying tissue as it goes.

**b) Endoparasitic species**

The Spiral Nematodes Helicotylenchus spp. & Rotylenchus spp. These nematodes typically adopt a spiral posture. They ‘gaze’ around the outside of roots using a short, hollow stylet to pierce cells and feed on the contents. The cells die after this attack, leaving many damaged areas in the roots.

The Stunt Nematode Tylenchorhynchus causes the plant to be stunted both above and below ground. Adults feed around the outside of the roots using a short, hollow stylet. Numbers can build up quickly so while individual nematodes do not cause much damage, their combined effect can be significant.

The Sheath Nematode Hemicyclocoele - so named because the adult female has a protective sheath around her body. This picture below shows the hollow stylet penetrating root cells during feeding.

The Ring Nematode Cricomeella spp. & Macroposthonia spp appear to be segmented like the earthworm. However, closer examination reveals this is due to corrugations of the outer membrane.

The Stubby Root Nematode Paratrichodorus feeds from the root tips causing damage which prevents further root elongation, hence its name. The nematode pierces the roots with a solid stylet, sucking up the sap with the mouth. Stubby Root nematodes are known to transmit viruses and have a synergistic effect with Fusarium.

**SYMPTOMS OF NEMATODE ATTACK ON TURF**

From the surface of the turf, the visual signs of nematode infestation are fairly non-specific and depend on the severity of infestation and the species of nematode involved.

Symptoms can vary from a yellow discoloration to wilting and general thinning of the sward. The physical damage to the root system results in a reduction in wear tolerance that can devastate heavily used turf.

Damage is particularly evident with endoparasitic species such as Meloidogyne spp., the Root Knot Nematode and the severity of symptoms can be made worse by external factors such as fungal disease attack and also by low light levels that are often found in football stadiums.

In the last 15 years we have seen a dramatic increase in golf construction to the USGA standard, which utilises pure sand or a high sand percentage in the rootzone, seeded with creeping bent (Agrostis stolonifera) This type of golf green has been found to be particularly susceptible to the root knot nematode Meloidogyne minor, it’s presence affecting both visual appearance and the roll of the ball as a result of turf thinning. Affected turf responds badly to routine maintenance such as aeration and feeding and the wear tolerance is greatly reduced.

Problems with nematode infestations are especially frequent in wet climates. It has been reported that in Ireland 90% of sand-based golf greens built since 1977 are infested with Meloidogyne minor. It is believed that the parasite is distributed in the sand used for construction, since it has been found to occur naturally in sand dunes all around the UK.

In many cases the presence of a nematode infestation can go unnoticed if the attack is less severe. Due to their small size examination of a soil core may not reveal the true cause.

Control of nematodes in turf

There are no chemical pesticides approved for nematode control in turf. However, a natural product based on garlic extract and sold under the brand name ‘Eagle Green Care’, has CRD approval for use on established turf in the UK.

Research has been carried out on the use of plant bio-stimulants to relieve the stress caused by nematodes feeding on the roots. Such products can improve the health quality and thickness of the root system and enable the grass to endure nematode attack without showing adverse visible symptoms. Of these, seaweed extracts obtained from Ascophyllum nodosum e.g. ‘Seavolution’ appear to give the best results. Research on some soil amendment products, such as Bio-Mass sugar and mustard bran, has also revealed benefits to the health of turf that is being damaged by feeding nematodes. The effect is deemed to be similar to that experienced with the use of bio-stimulants, encouraging the development of strong roots that can help to compensate for the damage caused by the nematodes. But, it must be stressed that these products are not authorised nematicides for use in reducing nematode numbers in turf.

**Claim 2 BASIS points**

**SELF ASSESSMENT**

Use the questions below to check your understanding of this topic. Readers can claim BASIS points if answered correctly. Circle the correct answer(s).

1) Approximately how many species of plant parasitic nematodes have been studied?
   a) 8000,  b) 800,  c) 4100, d) 3000

2) What term is used to describe the process of asexual reproduction that can occur with some nematodes?
   a) conjugation,  b) partenogenesis,  c) mitosis,  d) symbiosis

3) Which of the following are endoparasitic nematodes?

4) Why do nematodes require a muscular pharynx?
   a) To keep food in once it is sucked up, b) To propel the stylet into the host root cell, c) For respiration purposes, d) Hemicycliophora spp.

**REFERENCES**


**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**


**Go Green Plus**

A versatile, liquid formulation of sulphur free complexed iron that gives extended green up, whilst correcting iron deficiency and will harden turf against the onset of disease.

Research has been carried out on the use of plant bio-stimulants to relieve the stress caused by nematodes feeding on the roots. Such products can improve the health quality and thickness of the root system and enable the grass to endure nematode attack without showing adverse visible symptoms. Of these, seaweed extracts obtained from Ascophyllum nodosum e.g. ‘Seavolution’ appear to give the best results. Research on some soil amendment products, such as Bio-Mass sugar and mustard bran, has also revealed benefits to the health of turf that is being damaged by feeding nematodes. The effect is deemed to be similar to that experienced with the use of bio-stimulants, encouraging the development of strong roots that can help to compensate for the damage caused by the nematodes. But, it must be stressed that these products are not authorised nematicides for use in reducing nematode numbers in turf.
Wimbledon Park Golf Club has just completed the first phase of works that will transform the course.

Course Manager, Dave Langheim has been the driving force behind a project which will see the complete renovation of the course and installation of a state-of-the-art Toro Links irrigation system.

Dave moved to Wimbledon, across the road from the famous All England Club, in 2008, having previously been Course Manager at the Bernhard Hunt course at Foxhills.

“Wimbledon Park was looking for a person to improve the course and during my first few months I put forward a five year plan which took account of the members concerns with the inconsistency of the greens and tees and a major emphasis was put into machinery purchase with an investment with Toro machinery to ensure the correct machinery was available to carry out the works required,” said Dave.

He also initiated a wildlife and environmental plan working closely with the wildlife and wetland trust.

Within year three of the five year plan a course audit was put into place. Initially the club decided to appoint a Golf Course Architect and after a process of interviews with a number of qualified architects, in February of last year Thomson Perrett and Lobb was appointed to undertake a full design review of the course.

Part of the brief was to strengthen the finishing holes of the course and add further interest for the members. Adding interest for members is often the greatest challenge for a golf course architect as the ability and expectation of golfers vary enormously. Tim explained that expectations of golf include the competitive challenge of the game on the one hand to a social walk as a form of exercise and catching up with friends. Therefore creating a golfing experience which is fun and challenging is a difficult thing to achieve.

With that in mind Tim began the process of undertaking a full strategic review of the existing course. He made numerous visits to the club, walking the course and discussing the issues with members of varying playability. This helped to solidify some of the initial design concepts Tim wished to adopt. One of the overriding observations he made from the course analysis was that the existing course frequently punished the higher handicap golfer. This was prevalent from some of the bunkering being situated quite a distance from the green, penalising the more inaccurate shot.

Tim’s initial concepts were presented to the club and following a process of discussion with the board and membership were approved.

The course is built around an 85,000m³ lake and a number of the holes are low lying. It was apparent that ground water may become an issue, particularly with drainage outfalls and potential depths of the proposed new bunker bases. A detailed GPS survey was carried out to the entire site. This provided a contour plan that assisted Tim with his proposals and design.

“That survey enabled us to plan accurately the works and have a logical approach to drainage and outfalls. Interestingly within the final design the net sand area of bunkers was reduced from the existing course and the team were happy with the proposed placement of the new bunkers,” explained Tim. The final design and tender package was completed during the summer of 2011 at which time the tender package was sent to three approved contracting companies. Following tender submission each
Wimbledon Park Golf Club has just completed the first phase of works that will transform the course. Course Manager, Dave Langheim has been the driving force behind a project which will see the complete renovation of the course and installation of a state-of-the-art Toro Links irrigation system.

Dave moved to Wimbledon, across the road from the famous All England Club, in 2008, having previously been Course Manager at the Bernhard Hunt course at Foxhills.

“Wimbledon Park was looking for a person to improve the course and during my first few months I put forward a five year plan which took account of the members concerns with the inconsistency of the greens and tees and a major emphasis was put into machinery purchase with an investment with Toro machinery to ensure that the correct machinery was available to carry out the works required,” said Dave.

He also initiated a wildlife and environmental plan working closely with the wildlife and wetland trust. In addition a tree planting programme. Initially the club decided to appoint a Golf Course Architect and after a process of interviews with a number of qualified architects, in February of last year Thomson Perrett and Lobb was appointed to undertake a full design review of the course.

Part of the brief was to strengthen the finishing holes of the course and add further interest for the members. Adding interest for members is often the greatest challenge for a golf course architect as the ability and expectation of golfers vary enormously. Tim explained that expectations of golf include the competitive challenge of the game on the one hand to a social walk as a form of exercise and catching up with friends. Therefore creating a golfing experience which is fun and challenging is a difficult thing to achieve.

With that in mind Tim began the process of undertaking a full strategic review of the existing course. He made numerous visits to the club, walking the course and discussing the issues with members of varying playing ability. This helped to solidify some of the initial design concepts Tim wished to adopt. One of the overriding observations he made from the course analysis was that the existing course frequently punished the higher handicap golfer. This was prevalent from some of the bunkering being situated quite a distance from the green, penalising the more inaccurate shot.

Tim’s initial concepts were presented to the club and following a process of discussion with the board and membership were approved.

The course is built around a 85,000m³ lake and a number of the holes are low lying. It was apparent that ground water may become an issue, particularly with drainage outfalls and potential depths of the proposed new bunker bases. A detailed GPS survey was carried out to the entire site. This provided a contour plan that assisted Tim with his proposals and design.

“That survey enabled us to plan accurately the works and have a logical approach to drainage and outfalls. Interestingly within the final design the net sand area of bunkers was reduced from the existing course and the team were happy with the proposed placement of the new bunkers,” explained Tim. The final design and tender package was completed during the summer of 2011 at which time the tender package was sent to three approved contracting companies.
company was invited to attend a meeting to discuss their bid.

Profusion Environmental Ltd was chosen and awarded the contract. Dave felt that it was clear during the interview that Profusion had a passion and approach to the project which impressed the committee.

While Profusion is a new name in this sector the people behind it have a level of experience second to none. Nigel Wyatt, Simon Hatcher and Ian Martin have been working in the golf construction industry for 30, 20 and 40 years respectively.

Nigel was delighted with the appointment saying that this opportunity will be invaluable for Profusion, this being the company’s first major course reconstruction. “We were pleased to have the opportunity of working with the club, Tim Lobb, Dave Langheim and his team to achieve the club’s goals,” said Nigel.

The site was mobilised and the works commenced last October on the first phase of the works which included holes 1-3 and 12-18 a total of 10 holes. Tim worked closely with Ian Martin, Profusion site manager in order to achieve his design philosophy in the build.

Bunkers were rough shaped initially and then tweaked following Tim’s visits. The site is made up of London clay, which not only is challenging from a drainage point of view, is enormously difficult to shape. Having completed the final shaping a sand line was sprayed within the bunkers and a ledge created for the revetted edge. This revetted turf edge gives a very distinctive appearance and really helped the new bunkers be visually striking.

Knowing his course and problems that had been experienced with the existing bunkers Dave recommended that the club install a bunker lining system, something that would prevent sand from being contaminated with the clay, associated problems with drainage and other issues. He trialled a number of bunker lining systems and found that the best solution was Blinder. Penny Long, a director of The Blinder company, said that working with prominent Course Managers and industry professionals Blinder has been created to provide the perfect solution to consistent playable and easy to maintain bunkers.

Blinder enabled Tim to design very steep faces up to an angle of 45° as Blinder has proven to minimise sand wash from the faces. Blinder uses environment agency approved recycled rubber granules mixed with a binding agent throughout. The rubber granules are placed in a pan mixer together with the binding agent which gives the product great consistency and strength.

The mixed product is wheeled into the bunker and laid by hand trowelling. This ensures consistency of depth and allows the product to be laid on steep faces and intricate shapes created by the golf course architect. “The product drains effectively throughout and once it has cured is durable and resistant to club strikes. Importantly being a rubber based product will not cause damage to the golfer or the club,” said Penny.

Phase One of the works has now completed and Dave is delighted with the results. “The Profusion team have been excellent in what have been some extremely trying conditions.” Phase Two commences this October and while Dave will be have the course to himself over the summer is very much looking forward to completing his five year plan.

ABOVE: A renovated bunker under construction at Wimbledon Park Golf Club

For an excellent range of high quality fertilisers and seeds designed to meet the specific needs of the amenity industry, simply buy direct from the specialists at www.bshamenity.com

For greener grass make a great approach.
company was invited to attend a meeting to discuss their bid.

Profusion Environmental Ltd was chosen and awarded the contract. Dave felt that it was clear during the interview that Profusion had a passion and approach to the project which impressed the committee.

While Profusion is a new name in this sector the people behind it have a level of experience second to none. Nigel Wyatt, Simon Hatcher and Ian Martin have been working in the golf construction industry for 30, 20 and 40 years respectively.

Nigel was delighted with the appointment saying that this opportunity will be invaluable for Profusion, this being the company’s first major course reconstruction.

“We were pleased to have the opportunity of working with the club, Tim Lobb, Dave Langheim and his team to achieve the club’s goals,” said Nigel.

The site was mobilised and the works commenced last October on the first phase of the works which included holes 1-3 and 12-18 a total of 10 holes. Tim worked closely with Ian Martin, Profusion site manager in order to achieve his design philosophy in the build. Bunkers were rough shaped initially and then tweaked following Tim’s visits. The site is made up of London clay, which not only is challenging from a drainage point of view, is enormously difficult to shape. Having completed the final shaping a sand line was sprayed within the bunkers and a edge created for the revetted edge. This revetted turf edge gives a very distinctive appearance and really helped the new bunkers be visually striking.

Knowing his course and problems that had been experienced with the existing bunkers Dave recommended that the club install a bunker lining system, something that would prevent sand from being contaminated with the clay, associated problems with drainage and other issues. He trialed a number of bunker lining systems and found that the best solution was Blinder.

Penny Long, a director of The Blinder company, said that working with prominent Course Managers and industry professionals Blinder has been created to provide the perfect solution to consistent playable and easy to maintain bunkers.

“Blinder has proven to minimise sand wash from the faces. Blinder uses environment agency approved recycled rubber granules mixed with a binding agent throughout. The rubber granules are placed in a pan mixer together with the binding agent which gives the product great consistency and strength. The mixed product is wheeled into the bunker and laid by hand trowelling. This ensures consistency of depth and allows the product to be laid on steep faces and intricate shapes created by the golf course architect.”

“Knowing his course and problems that had been experienced with the existing bunkers Dave recommended that the club install a bunker lining system, something that would prevent sand from being contaminated with the clay, associated problems with drainage and other issues. He trialed a number of bunker lining systems and found that the best solution was Blinder.”

Blinder enabled Tim to design very steep faces up to an angle of 45° as Blinder has proven to minimise sand wash from the faces. Blinder uses environment agency approved recycled rubber granules mixed with a binding agent throughout. The rubber granules are placed in a pan mixer together with the binding agent which gives the product great consistency and strength.

“Blinder has proven to minimise sand wash from the faces. Blinder uses environment agency approved recycled rubber granules mixed with a binding agent throughout. The rubber granules are placed in a pan mixer together with the binding agent which gives the product great consistency and strength.”

“Blinder has proven to minimise sand wash from the faces. Blinder uses environment agency approved recycled rubber granules mixed with a binding agent throughout. The rubber granules are placed in a pan mixer together with the binding agent which gives the product great consistency and strength.”

“Blinder has proven to minimise sand wash from the faces. Blinder uses environment agency approved recycled rubber granules mixed with a binding agent throughout. The rubber granules are placed in a pan mixer together with the binding agent which gives the product great consistency and strength.”

“The product drains effectively throughout and once it has cured is durable and resistant to club strikes. Importantly being a rubber based product will not cause damage to the golfer or the club,” said Penny.

Phase One of the works has now completed and Dave is delighted with the results. “The Profusion team have been excellent in what have been some extremely trying conditions.”

Phase Two commences this October and while Dave will be have the course to himself over the summer is very much looking forward to completing his five year plan.
Rough mowing to a high standard

James de Havilland presents the rough guide to rough mowers

Rough mowers have evolved to the point where modern rotary models offer good contour following and an excellent finish. In some cases, a wide area model can be drafted in at certain times to mow a fairway too. So what should you look for?

As is so often the case, it is dangerous to generalise. However, it is fair to say a large proportion of golf courses will mow roughs with a rotary mower. Versatile, robust and able to operate with minimal maintenance, a rotary mower can combine a good finish with moderate operating costs.

The trick when looking at a new model is to consider exactly what you want the mower to achieve. A lot will depend upon the way in which the fairways are bounded by the roughs and how your mowing passes are set up to optimise productivity.

Is your priority to have a model to mow around bunkers without the risk of damage or do you need the ability to cover a wide area?

It of course follows that a wide area cylinder mower can cut the roughs; some courses will have moved from a ‘heavy fairway’ model to a lighter design and relegate the ‘old’ fairway model to taking care

John Deere 8800 TerrainCut mowers feature five cutting units for a total mowing width of 2.23m. Height of cut adjusts between a nominal 2.5cm to 10cm

Each measuring 53.3cm, the rear discharge cutting units fitted to the John Deere 8400 feature anti-scalp front- and full width rear-rolls to leave a striped finish. Designed to follow undulations, the units are “narrower” than those of the JD 7400.

John Deere 7400 mowers work at a variable width of 1.73m to 1.88m. The front units can be swung out when mowing next to a bunker to help prevent the mower’s wheels damaging the edges. Each of the three units is 68.6cm in width

There’s now a more flexible way to finance your Kubota mower. With a 6 months payment holiday you now only need to pay for your mower during the working season. With outstanding performance, simple operation and legendary reliability it’s even more affordable to now own a Kubota.
Rough mowing to a high standard

James de Havilland presents the rough guide to rough mowers

Rough mowers have evolved to the point where modern rotary models offer good contour following and an excellent finish. In some cases, a wide area model can be drafted in at certain times to mow a fairway too. So what should you look for?

As is so often the case, it is dangerous to generalise. However, it is fair to say a large proportion of golf courses will mow roughs with a rotary mower. Versatile, robust and able to operate with minimal maintenance, a rotary mower can combine a good finish with moderate operating costs.

The trick when looking at a new model is to consider exactly what you want the mower to achieve. A lot will depend upon the way in which the fairways are bounded by the roughs and how your mowing passes are set up to optimise productivity.

Is your priority to have a model to mow around bunkers without the risk of damage or do you need the ability to cover a wide area?

It of course follows that a wide area cylinder mower can cut the roughs; some courses will have moved from a 'heavy fairway' model to a lighter design and relegate the 'old' fairway model to taking care of the roughs.

Each measuring 53.3cm, the rear discharge cutting units fitted to the John Deere 8400 feature anti-scalp front- and full width rear-rolls to leave a striped finish. Designed to follow undulations, the units are “narrower” than those of the JD 7400.

John Deere 7400 mowers work at a variable width of 1.73m to 1.88m. The front units can be swung out when mowing next to a bunker to help prevent the mower’s wheels damaging the edges. Each of the three units is 68.5cm in width.

John Deere 8800 TerrainCut mowers feature five cutting units for a total mowing width of 2.33m. Height of cut adjusts between a nominal 2.5cm to 10cm.

There’s now a more flexible way to finance your Kubota mower.

With a 6 months payment holiday you now only need to pay for your mower during the working season. With outstanding performance, simple operation and legendary reliability it’s even more affordable to now own a Kubota.

FIND YOUR LOCAL DEALER OR BOOK A TEST DRIVE TODAY

Tel: 01844 214 500 www.kubota.co.uk
Jacobsen offer a range of mowers suitable for cutting roughs, the 2.30m five-gang AR-522 featuring 56cm TrimTek decks that will mow down to between 1.9cm and 13.3cm. At the other extreme, the company’s HR-9016T offers a 4.30m mowing width, will cut down to 2.5cm and offers the potential to cover around 6.7 ha – or 16.5 acres – an hour.

Total area to be mown: Not always as simple as it seems. A ‘new’ mower may end up being employed differently once it is in service. The key is to establish primary mowing duties and the area it will need to cut. Remember, theoretical mower performance is based upon a clear run. Halve these rates to get an idea of true performance.

Terrain: Undulating ground and slopes may influence choosing between smaller individual cutting units and wider multi-blade decks. On sloping ground, all-wheel drive may provide improved traction but overall stability will be of primary importance. A wide track mower may be a good choice but will it suit all the work required?

Finish: Modern multiple ‘gang’ rotary mowers have improved contour following, individual cutting unit sizes varying between makes and models. Smaller units will tend to suit undulating ground but a lot will also depend upon height of cut. How rough are your roughs?

Height of cut: A rough mower that can be used as part of a fairway mowing regime may be very useful at certain times of the year. Can the mower be used to help reduce grass height following a prolonged period of heavy spring/summer rain?

How important is height of cut and finish? Do you need a mower that can deliver a really fine cut or will a more conventional wide area rotary be more in line with your demands?

Variable width: The ability to push out the outer units of a mower to increase mowing width goes beyond helping increase productivity over wide, flat areas. It can also be used to push the units out around bunkers or tuck more easily under bushes and hedges. As with all mowing equipment, the key is to try different models and work out how the mower integrates with existing equipment.

Modern rotary mowers can achieve an excellent finish, particularly when exploited on a ‘little and often’ regime in periods of fast grass growth. But some rotary models will also enable you to tackle much heavier growth that can include light scrub. The best mower will always be the one that is right for your individual needs.

Toro Groundsmaster rotary models include the seven gang GM 4700D. Offering a 3.80m cut, the mower can be operated with the two outer units raised. As with other rival designs, the rear discharge units can be fitted with a mulch kit. Note wide track width for stability on slopes. US style ‘bump cap’ a good idea when mowing around trees.

Working alongside his father at Latrobe Country Club, the legendary Arnold Palmer learned the value of the unsung heroes of golf. Jacobsen has always provided greenkeepers and technicians with machines that perform every time, so when Arnold Palmer bought Latrobe, it’s no wonder he specified our equipment.

www.ransomesjacobsen.com

His Moment
Our Machines

Jacobsen
Jacobsen offer a range of mowers suitable for cutting roughs, the 2.30m five-gang AR-522 featuring 56cm TrimTek decks that will mow down to between 1.9cm to 13.3cm. At the other extreme, the company’s HR-9016T offers a 4.80m mowing width, will cut down to 2.5cm and offers the potential to cover around 6.7 ha – or 16.5 acres – an hour.

Toro Groundsmaster rotary models include the seven gang GM 4700D. Offering a 3.80m cut, the mower can be operated with the two outer units raised. As with other rival designs, the rear discharge units can be fitted with a mulch kit. Note wide track width for stability on slopes. US style ‘bump cap’ a good idea when mowing around trees.

of the roughs. But where a rotary mower is the key choice, there are a few pointers that can help when trying to select the right model.

• Total area to be mown: Not always as simple as it seems. A ‘new’ mower may end up being employed differently once it is in service. The key is to establish primary mowing duties and the area it will need to cut. Remember, theoretical mower performance is based upon a clear run. Halve these rates to get an idea of true performance.

• Terrain: Undulating ground and slopes may influence choosing between smaller individual cutting units and wider multi-blade decks.

• Finish: Modern multiple ‘gang’ rotary mowers have improved contour following, individual cutting unit sizes varying between makes and models.

• Height of cut: A rough mower that can be used as part of a fairway mowing regime may be very useful at certain times of the year.

• Height of cut and finish: Do you need a mower that can deliver a really fine cut or will a more conventional wide area rotary be more in line with your demands?

• Variable width: The ability to push out the outer units of a mower to increase mowing width goes beyond helping increase productivity over wide, flat areas. It can also be used to push the units out around bunkers or tuck more easily under bushes and hedges.

As with all mowing equipment, the key is to try different models and work out how the mower integrates with existing equipment.

Modern rotary mowers can achieve an excellent finish, particularly when exploited on a ‘little and often’ regime in periods of fast grass growth.

But some rotary models will also enable you to tackle much heavier growth that can include light scrub. The best mower will always be the one that is right for your individual needs.

Jacobsen has always provided greenkeepers and technicians with machines that perform every time, so when Arnold Palmer bought Latrobe, it’s no wonder he specified our equipment.

Working alongside his father at Latrobe Country Club, the legendary Arnold Palmer learned the value of the unsung heroes of golf. Jacobsen has always provided greenkeepers and technicians with machines that perform every time, so when Arnold Palmer bought Latrobe, it’s no wonder he specified our equipment.

www.ransomesjacobsen.com
The Alchemist

When it comes to getting better cultivars into your sward, don’t be bamboozled by what’s on offer. David Greenshields, lifts the lid on the art of grass seed breeding and blending

A common question I’m asked by greenkeepers and turf professionals is if and/or when they should change the grass seed mixture they have performed well over the years. The advice from leading independent advisors is, quite rightly, to consider changing what you’re using from time to time in order to add to the diversity of your sward to improve overall performance.

And it is also understandable that many turf professionals are bamboozled when told they should change a grass seed mixture that has performed well over the years. But it’s important to understand that you can still follow this sound advice without necessarily needing to ‘change’ your mixture. So how does this work?

‘Change’ can take place over time in the form of the individual cultivars that make up your preferred grass seed mixture, rather than moving away from the mixture or brand itself. For example, we regularly test new cultivars in mixture synergy trials prior to introducing the re-formulated mixture into the market, thus ensuring users can enjoy improved performance year-on-year by selecting what can be perceived as the ‘same’ mixture.

Let’s take a closer look at this issue...

Breeding breakthroughs

Let’s start with the role of the breeder. Grass seed breeders work to improve and update cultivars on an ongoing basis, providing turf professionals with characteristics like disease and drought tolerance, cool-temperature germination and rapid recovery from wear. You name a problem, you can be sure there’s a breeder out there pioneering a new cultivar to solve it!

That’s why it’s vital that these breeding breakthroughs are harnessed into our playing surfaces—they contribute not insignificantly to providing the protection we so need from disease incidence or adverse climatic conditions. Without them, a surface left unseeded for a prolonged period, or reseeded with an unchanged mixture, will become increasingly susceptible to stress.

Once one of our global network of plant breeders has produced a cultivar that, say, provides improved tolerance to Leaf Spot disease, it’s then up to us to make the most of that breakthrough.

How individual cultivars are selected, trialled and harnessed within a mixture aside for a moment, this brings us to the key point of difference between breeding companies and grass seed importers.

Only a breeding company that understands the value of applied research and development—i.e. a company that ‘owns’ the seed company investing and involved in the process of developing new cultivars through a comprehensive trialling programme—can provide you with the latest solutions and all the benefits these bring. We are constantly looking at how we can better our mixtures with the latest Barrenbraugh-bred cultivars—to do so takes time and money, hence we are a premium-priced product with added value in terms of performance capability.

Compare this approach with those who buy-in grass seed from various sources either ready-blended or blend it themselves without the benefit of a breeding, and research and development programme—without expertise or passion.

This means products from breeding companies will include the latest cultivars as a matter of course. So, perhaps you’ve been using the same mixture—let’s say our BAR Fescue—for several years. But, as we’ll see, it’s changed and evolved over time. If you’re buying seed from a breeding company, you are replenishing your sward and improving disease tolerance without necessarily knowing it!

Mixture synergy

Let’s say, at the other end of the scale, you do know your cultivars from your mixtures, breeding companies and marketing bunf. A little knowledge can be a dangerous thing, as they say.

Lots of turf professionals, understandably, look at individual cultivar characteristics—perhaps consulting the British Society of Plant Breeders (BSPB) Turfgrass Seed guide—to solve problems. It makes sense— you want a bent grass mixture for your greens, so you naturally gravitate towards the top-performing cultivars on that particular table and give the ‘agent’ company a call.

This may sound surprising coming from a company whose cultivars regularly top the tables. But, finding the perfect grass seed blend is a kind of alchemy.

That’s where mixture synergy comes into its own.

By carefully selecting desirable characteristics, and considering how different strengths and traits might complement or compete with each other, we research and develop the mixtures that eventually make it to market. This is a long process—it can take a full 15 years to develop a new cultivar, through breeding, in-house research, trialing trials with turf professionals and official testing systems; each a vital and valuable part of the process.

Along the way, we might discover a cultivar that scored well in the Turfgrass Seed guide for fineness of leaf improves a mixture dramatically—and gives, let’s say, added cool temperature growth or extra disease resistance to boot. It’s fascinating.

Buy right

We all need to remember that you can’t look at key characteristics of cultivars in isolation to find the optimum solution to a particular problem, be it recurring disease or a salt-ravaged links course. Nor can the constant chipping and changing of products, or—more worryingly—brands, magically replenish and revive your playing surface.

So what can you do? Well, you can educate yourself about the differences we’ve discussed here and make informed buying decisions. Ask questions. What new our BAR Fescue does your chosen grass seed mixture contain? When was it last refreshed? How often has it been re-formulated in the last five or 10 years? When you take into account the wider relationship-building and problem-solving role of grass seed breeding companies, it’s unfortunate to see venues make poor product choices.

Let’s take a look at a couple of examples of mixtures we’ve evolved to show just how much products can change over the space of a few years.

• BAR Fescue has changed significantly in the last five years. We’ve most recently seen the introduction of innovative new cultivars like Viktoria (25%), Bar-swing (20%) and Bargreen II (15%), together with 25% Barcrown and 15% Barbarae to create the mixture’s current composition. Compare this to its 2006 formulation of 50% Bargreen, 25% Barcrown and 25% Barpearl. These latest additions bring improved desirable characteristics—combined disease tolerance and cool soil temperature germination—that are an improvement on the previous incarnation.

• BAR 7 is currently undergoing something of a revolution. Having developed a unique Regenerating Perennial Ryegrass (RPR), we soon saw how its creeping growth habit, with a capability to establish quickly and tolerate weed, could particularly benefit football and rugby applications. After successfulltrialsafterateamoffootball venues during 2011, BAR 7 RPR has now been launched as an added option to the standard mix. And with production of our new top-rated variety Barorlando in the pipeline, this popular blend is likely to take another step forward very soon!
The Alchemist

When it comes to getting better cultivars into your sward, don’t be bamboozled by what’s on offer. David Greenshields, lifts the lid on the art of grass seed breeding and blending

A common question I’m asked by greenkeepers and turf professionals is if and/or when they should change the grass seed mixture they are using. The advice from leading independent advisors is, quite rightly, to consider changing what you are using from time to time in order to add to the diversity of your sward to improve overall performance. And it is also understandable that many turf professionals are bamboozled when told they should change a grass seed mixture that has performed well over the years. But it’s important to understand that you can still follow this sound advice without necessarily needing to ‘change’ your mixture. So how does this work?

‘Change’ can take place over time in the form of the individual cultivars that make up your preferred grass seed mixture, rather than moving away from the mixture or brand itself. For example, we regularly test new cultivars in mixture synergy trials prior to introducing the re-formulated mixture into the market, thus ensuring users can enjoy improved performance on an on-going basis. However, we should be aware that some of the cultivars we have blended together since our first formulation in the 1960s may no longer be the top-performing cultivars on any particular table. So let’s take a closer look at this issue...

Breeding breakthroughs

Let’s start with the role of the breeder. Grass seed breeders work to improve and update cultivars on an ongoing basis, providing turf professionals with characteristics like disease and drought tolerance, cool-temperature germination and rapid recovery from wear. You name a problem, you can be sure there’s a breeder out there pioneering a new cultivar to solve it!

That’s why it’s vital that these breeding breakthroughs are translated into our playing surfaces. They contribute not-insignificantly to providing the protection we so need from disease incidence or adverse climatic conditions. Without them, a surface left unseeded for a prolonged period, or reseeded with an unchanged mixture, will become increasingly susceptible to stress.

Once one of our global network of plant breeders has produced a cultivar that, say, provides improved tolerance to Leaf Spot disease, it’s then up to us to make the most of that breakthrough. How individual cultivars are selected, trialed and harnessed within a mixture aside for a moment, this brings us to the key point of difference between breeding companies and grass seed importers. Only a breeding company that understands the values of applied research and development – i.e. a company that has a dedicated in-house research and development programme – can provide you with the latest solutions and all the benefits these bring. We are constantly looking at how we can better our mixtures with the latest Barenbrug-bred cultivars – to do so takes time and money, hence we are a premium-priced product with added value in terms of performance capability.

Compare this approach with those who buy-in grass seed from various sources either ready-blended or blend it themselves without the benefit of a breeding, and research and development programme – without expertise or passion.

This means products from breeding companies will include the latest cultivars as a matter of course. So, perhaps you’ve been using the same mixture – let’s say our BAR Fescue – for several years. But, as we’ll see, it’s changed and evolved over time. If you’re buying seed from a breeding company, you are replenishing your sward and improving disease tolerance without necessarily knowing it!

Mixture synergy

Let’s say, at the other end of the scale, you do know your cultivars from your mixtures, breeding companies and marketing bund. A little knowledge can be a dangerous thing, as they say!

Lots of turf professionals, understandably, look at individual cultivar characteristics – perhaps consulting the British Society of Plant Breeders (BSPB) Turfgrass Seed guide – to solve problems. It makes sense – you want a bent grass mixture for your greens, so naturally you gravitate towards the top-performing cultivars on that particular table and give the ‘agent’ a call. This may sound surprising coming from a company whose cultivars regularly top the tables. But, finding the perfect grass seed blend is a kind of alchemy.

That’s where mixture synergy comes into its own. By carefully selecting desirable characteristics, and considering how different strengths and traits might complement or compete with each other, we research and develop the mixtures that eventually make it to market. This is a long process; it can take a full 15 years to develop a new cultivar, through breeding, house research, field trials with turf professionals and official testing systems; each a vital and valuable part of the process.

Along the way, we might discover a cultivar that scored well in the Turfgrass Seed guide for fineness of leaf improves a mixture dramatically – and gives, let’s say, added cool temperature growth or extra disease resistance to boot. It’s fascinating.

Buy right

We all need to remember that you can’t look at key characteristics of cultivars in isolation to find the optimum solution to a particular problem, be it recurring disease or a salt-ravaged links course. Nor can the constant chipping and changing of products, or more worryingly, brands, magically replenish and revive your playing surface.

So what can you do? Well, you can educate yourself about the differences we’ve discussed here and make informed buying decisions. Ask questions. What new cultivars does your chosen grass seed mixture contain? When was it last refreshed? How often has it been reformulated in the last five or 10 years? When you take into account the wider relationship-building and problem-solving role of grass seed breeding companies, it’s unfortunate to see venues make poor product choices.

Let’s take a look at a couple of examples of mixtures we’ve evolved to show just how much products can change over the space of a few years...

• BAR Fescue has changed significantly in the last five years. We’ve most recently seen the introduction of innovative new cultivars like Viktoria (25%), Var- (swinging 20%) and Barenbrug II (15%), together with 25% Barcrown and 15% Barbardie, to create the mix- ture’s current composition. Compare this to its 2006 formulation of 50% Bazygr, 25% Barcrown and 25% Barpearl. These latest additions bring improved desirable characteristics – combined disease tolerance and cool soil temperature germination – that are an improve- ment on the previous incarnation.

• BAR 7 is currently undergoing something of a revolution. Having developed a unique Regenerating perennial Ryegrass (RPR), we soon saw how its creeping growth habit, with a capability to establish quickly and tolerate wear, could particularly benefit football and rugby applications. After success- ful trials at a number of top football venues during 2011, BAR 7 RPR has now been launched as an added option to the standard mix. And with production of our new improved varieties Barduocks in the pipeline, this popular blend is likely to take another step forward very soon!
The new, updated, Safety Management System (SMS) has been available to BIGGA and GCMA members since mid January. The original SMS will no longer be accessible to members from 30 April 2012.

STORED RISK PROFILES
To ensure that you have downloaded your stored Risk Profiles you will have to follow these steps:

1. Login to the Members area of the BIGGA website.
2. Click on Member Resources.
4. Click on the button ‘Click here to visit the older site’.
5. Click on the Login/Register tab at the bottom of the page.
6. Insert your user name (email address) and password.
7. Select the Risk Profile area that you wish to view.
8. When the Risk Profile is visible select the ‘Click here to Download’ option at the top right of the page.
9. The Risk Profile for the selected area will have saved to your selected download area.
10. Repeat steps 7, 8 and 9 for each Risk Profile area.

The BIGGA/GCMA Safety Management System (SMS) sponsored by Ransomes Jacobson has been developed to provide:

- All golf clubs with Golf Industry Standard Risk Assessments.
- All golf clubs with a SMS tailored to their needs.
- Golf Club Managers with practical help to meet their legal obligations.
- Why do you need a Safety Management System?
- It is a key obligation of health and safety legislation.
- It is required by HSE guidance.
- It gives protection to employees and senior management.
- The Safety Management System contains help and guidance to enable golf clubs to:
  - Prevent avoidable accidents.
  - Meet the best standards of the golf industry.
  - Reduce the costs.

As you may not remember your username and password, they will be emailed to the address that is registered on the SMS website.

The new SMS does not feature the facility to store Risk Profiles on the older site. The original SMS will no longer be accessible to users.

To check how the new hazards are coded, download the Excel document at the end of each hazard page eg 4. Clubhouse – Old to New Hazards.

Both Risk Assessments and Risk Profiles can be updated with the new hazard references as part of your regular review process over the coming months.

The BIGGA/GCMA Safety Management System (SMS) sponsored by Ransomes Jacobson has been developed to provide:

- All golf clubs with Golf Industry Standard Risk Assessments.
- All golf clubs with a SMS tailored to their needs.
- Golf Club Managers with practical help to meet their legal obligations.
- Why do you need a Safety Management System?
- It is a key obligation of health and safety legislation.
- It is required by HSE guidance.
- It gives protection to employees and senior management.
- The Safety Management System contains help and guidance to enable golf clubs to:
  - Prevent avoidable accidents.
  - Meet the best standards of the golf industry.
  - Reduce the costs.

As you may not remember your username and password, they will be emailed to the address that is registered on the SMS website.

The new SMS does not feature the facility to store Risk Profiles on the older site. The original SMS will no longer be accessible to users.

To check how the new hazards are coded, download the Excel document at the end of each hazard page eg 4. Clubhouse – Old to New Hazards.

Both Risk Assessments and Risk Profiles can be updated with the new hazard references as part of your regular review process over the coming months.
The BIGGA/GCMA Safety Management System (SMS) has been developed to provide:

- All golf clubs with Golf Industry Standard Risk Assessments.
- Golf Club Managers with practical help to meet their legal obligations.
- It is a key obligation of health and safety legislation.
- It is required by HSE guidance.
- It gives protection to employees and senior management.

The Safety Management System contains help and guidance to enable golf clubs to:

- Prevent avoidable accidents.
- Meet the best standards of the golf industry.
- Reduce the costs.
- Enable golf clubs to:
  - Meet the legal obligations.
  - Work towards the highest safety standards.
  - Have a systematic approach to managing safety.
  - Have a reference point for their regular safety reviews.
  - Have a systematic approach to managing safety.

Why do you need a Safety Management System?

- It is a key obligation of health and safety legislation.
- It is required by HSE guidance.
- It gives protection to employees and senior management.
- The Safety Management System contains help and guidance to enable golf clubs to:
  - Prevent avoidable accidents.
  - Meet the best standards of the golf industry.
  - Reduce the costs.

Why do you need a Safety Management System? To check how the new hazards are coded, download the Excel document at the end of each hazard page eg 4. Clubhouse – Old to New Hazards.

Both Risk Assessments and Risk Profiles can be updated with the new hazard references as part of your regular review process over the coming months.
Ayrshire

The Angus area for points
are the big glass ones and

I am not sure if they fall

As you read this month’s

In the old days it was

It is now mid March

I hope this season will
dose of snow. It has been

or that quick start to the season we
days. It has been snowing!

In the autumn, July 4 (TBC);

I would like to start this

So guys the President’s Day,

Well what’s been happening

As the festive period has

I am led to believe that

Our area please let me know!

So glad I gave the Saturday

So I hope you all enjoyed the

In all honesty, I am still

So just back from Har-

I haven’t mentioned the scores

Considering the actual

As you can see, there will

That’s it for this month, by

That leads me to the next

I was unable to attend
days of recording at over

Well it’s only been a couple

we will see you at one of the above

I was unable to attend
days of recording at over

I would like to start this

Well what’s been happening

I can’t really say that

So guys the President’s Day,

As the festive period has

the weather and how

The second time). First class

the West and I wish you all

3. George Mitchell has had his

the Best in the area, ask

it was only last week and very

there is a limit, so I am sat in my

Well it’s only been a couple

The prize winners were as

Every year, however, there are

the best in the area, ask

the turfcare experts. Call us today.

So glad I gave the Saturday

Also, I am led to believe that

As for the golfers, after a

For the courtesy of the course,

In particular Ewan and his

and in particular Ewan and his

and in particular Ewan and his

As for the golfers, after a

the weather and how

so many old mates to chat to

For the courtesy of the course,

I am sure you will agree that

Now we have finally

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

that quick start to the season we

As you can see, there will

As you can see, there will

As you can see, there will

In the spring outing notes;

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

the snow has been to

from one year to the next).

I was unable to attend

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,

For the courtesy of the course,
Day one of the exhibitions was first class and the talks I attended were extremely busy and informative for the BIGGA. The staff at head office were always there to help and I had the chance to meet up with the new CEO and listen to his views for the future.

Up and coming events are the Scottish Conference on March 6 and the spring outing which, instead of being held at Auchra Farm, is going to be held at the Cumbernauld Golf Club. The details for this event will be circulated as soon as possible.

Representative on the Board.

with myself, or even Mr Stuart
BIGGA matters can be taken up
queries you may have about any
a lot of discussion behind it.

around the Green

All the best

Please email your notes to
Section scott@bigga.co.uk
in this column for the magazine.

but be sure to let me know if
members there to discuss.

which you will be notified about
the Scottish Conference on
19; Winter. Bert Cross Memo-
GC, July 4 (TBC); Autumn,
April 12 (TBC); Summer. Stand
your dairy: Spring. Leasowe GC,
19; Winter. Bert Cross Memo-
GC, July 4 (TBC); Autumn,
April 12 (TBC); Summer. Stand
your dairy: Spring. Leasowe GC,
19; Winter. Bert Cross Memo-
GC, July 4 (TBC); Autumn,
April 12 (TBC); Summer. Stand
your dairy: Spring. Leasowe GC,
19; Winter. Bert Cross Memo-
GC, July 4 (TBC); Autumn,
April 12 (TBC); Summer. Stand
your dairy: Spring. Leasowe GC,
19; Winter. Bert Cross Memo-
GC, July 4 (TBC); Autumn,
April 12 (TBC); Summer. Stand
your dairy: Spring. Leasowe GC,
19; Winter. Bert Cross Memo-
GC, July 4 (TBC); Autumn,
April 12 (TBC); Summer. Stand
your dairy: Spring. Leasowe GC,
19; Winter. Bert Cross Memo-
GC, July 4 (TBC); Autumn,
April 12 (TBC); Summer. Stand
your dairy: Spring. Leasowe GC,
19; Winter. Bert Cross Memo-
GC, July 4 (TBC); Autumn,
April 12 (TBC); Summer. Stand
your dairy: Spring. Leasowe GC,
Spring is around the corner and with brooms, dustpans and garden forks out on show, I can’t give anything away at the moment. I hope he found it very successful.

February; I hope he found it very successful.

Spring cannot be far around the corner and preparations begin for the new golf season, the start of the year, despite the fact that I am writing at the beginning of February, for all of us concerned with the repair and protecting of greens, it is yet to be arranged, but I’m sure we will continue to learn. Having said that, you’re only going to better your standards.

My wedding pictures

Spring cannot be far around the corner and preparations begin for the new golf season, the start of the year, despite the fact that I am writing at the beginning of February, for all of us concerned with the repair and protecting of greens, it is yet to be arranged, but I’m sure we will continue to learn. Having said that, you’re only going to better your standards.

Midland

The spring comp South

Spring cannot be far around the corner and preparations begin for the new golf season, the start of the year, despite the fact that I am writing at the beginning of February, for all of us concerned with the repair and protecting of greens, it is yet to be arranged, but I’m sure we will continue to learn. Having said that, you’re only going to better your standards.

Midland

The spring comp South

Spring cannot be far around the corner and preparations begin for the new golf season, the start of the year, despite the fact that I am writing at the beginning of February, for all of us concerned with the repair and protecting of greens, it is yet to be arranged, but I’m sure we will continue to learn. Having said that, you’re only going to better your standards.

Midland

The spring comp South

Spring cannot be far around the corner and preparations begin for the new golf season, the start of the year, despite the fact that I am writing at the beginning of February, for all of us concerned with the repair and protecting of greens, it is yet to be arranged, but I’m sure we will continue to learn. Having said that, you’re only going to better your standards.

Midland

The spring comp South

Spring cannot be far around the corner and preparations begin for the new golf season, the start of the year, despite the fact that I am writing at the beginning of February, for all of us concerned with the repair and protecting of greens, it is yet to be arranged, but I’m sure we will continue to learn. Having said that, you’re only going to better your standards.

Midland

The spring comp South

Spring cannot be far around the corner and preparations begin for the new golf season, the start of the year, despite the fact that I am writing at the beginning of February, for all of us concerned with the repair and protecting of greens, it is yet to be arranged, but I’m sure we will continue to learn. Having said that, you’re only going to better your standards.

Midland

The spring comp South

Spring cannot be far around the corner and preparations begin for the new golf season, the start of the year, despite the fact that I am writing at the beginning of February, for all of us concerned with the repair and protecting of greens, it is yet to be arranged, but I’m sure we will continue to learn. Having said that, you’re only going to better your standards.
North Wales

Spring is around the corner already, as you will be able to see if you sit by the window with your morning coffee. The weather is looking even brighter ideas being raised in the mornings. The Addyman MG went to the CSCSA show in Las Vegas, and he had all the latest from the social media vibe, and he found it very educational for himself. He was talking about how social media is very important, to share his experiences with us, or perhaps a seminar in the beginning of the year?

The new Section committee held its first meeting in the beginning of February and while I can’t give anything away at the moment, I can say that very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings.

Around the Green

North Wales

an appeal for venues to host rolled out. Very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings.

Around the Green

an appeal for venues to host rolled out. Very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings.

Around the Green

an appeal for venues to host rolled out. Very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings.

Around the Green

an appeal for venues to host rolled out. Very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings. I know there are some very bright ideas being raised in the mornings.
Hello all and welcome to the regular Section News which will be appearing monthly and will cover all aspects of the Greenkeepers Professional Association. This month we have another interesting and informative article from the Surrey Section. Our next conference is coming up on Sunday 14th October in Bagshot, Borders Hall Hotel. The conference will be an excellent opportunity for you to network with other professionals and discuss current issues affecting the greenkeeping profession. The conference will include presentations from experts in the field, as well as opportunities for attendees to network and engage in discussions. If you have any questions or would like to contribute to the proceedings, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to seeing you at the conference!
an interesting and informative day. Again information/applica-
tion forms can be found on the website and will be emailed out to members.

Anyone who has any views, or stories they would like to add to the BBB&O Section then please don’t hesitate to get in touch: bbscribe@gmail.com. After- congratulating Katie and

we can’t keep up to date with

what is happening in the BBB&O

Around The Green

John Wells [South West

Education/Magazine]: j.wells@bigga.co.uk

Section. The committee are keen to inform members that new members are better informed and become more involved in Education. The new website will be available by the end of April, we now have just group will have group meetings face to face back on last year, each event had a different theme.

Please do your very best to sup-

port at least one Section event during 2012, your support is the driving force behind the whole section.

We also have a Facebook page

for the South West Section, one

that will make it much more convenient for you all to use, you can do anything with it, just enjoy it. Well go and have a look at the presentation.

It was great to see a good number of Section members up at AGMs, it was great to see that numbers on the whole were significantly up on previous year and that back from both members and trade was very positive. A huge thank you to all the members and Anthony [Jacko] James for organizing the raffles for 18 members to travel up to Harro-

gate. Also a big thank you all to

thank you for all the advice and support that they have gave us.

I think that it was clear to see that BTME is not the right vehicle for every company but it is an incredibly disrespectful to the companies that do choose to exhibit to be hijacked in this way and I would urge you to all to remember that

from the 2011 fixture list which we circulated at the AGM last year, and notice that the

EGGA Bigga National Championship.

So many of you may have please let me know. The London Section had its winter meeting/AGM at Old Fold Manor back in early December, so I would like to thank Ian Collinson, Course Manager, for presenting the golf course so well on the day, and to the manicure team on winning who were well lead by their Course Manager Craig Newton, his two assistants and just a little help from yours truly also and I also thank Old Fold Manor for hosting the day. Once the food and prize giving was over, it was simple straight into the AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

The AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

I think that it was clear to see that BTME is not the right vehicle for every company but it is an incredibly disrespectful to the companies that do choose to exhibit to be hijacked in this way and I would urge you to all to remember that

from the 2011 fixture list which we circulated at the AGM last year, and notice that the

EGGA Bigga National Championship.

So many of you may have please let me know. The London Section had its winter meeting/AGM at Old Fold Manor back in early December, so I would like to thank Ian Collinson, Course Manager, for presenting the golf course so well on the day, and to the manicure team on winning who were well lead by their Course Manager Craig Newton, his two assistants and just a little help from yours truly also and I also thank Old Fold Manor for hosting the day. Once the food and prize giving was over, it was simple straight into the AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

The AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

I think that it was clear to see that BTME is not the right vehicle for every company but it is an incredibly disrespectful to the companies that do choose to exhibit to be hijacked in this way and I would urge you to all to remember that

from the 2011 fixture list which we circulated at the AGM last year, and notice that the

EGGA Bigga National Championship.

So many of you may have please let me know. The London Section had its winter meeting/AGM at Old Fold Manor back in early December, so I would like to thank Ian Collinson, Course Manager, for presenting the golf course so well on the day, and to the manicure team on winning who were well lead by their Course Manager Craig Newton, his two assistants and just a little help from yours truly also and I also thank Old Fold Manor for hosting the day. Once the food and prize giving was over, it was simple straight into the AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

The AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

I think that it was clear to see that BTME is not the right vehicle for every company but it is an incredibly disrespectful to the companies that do choose to exhibit to be hijacked in this way and I would urge you to all to remember that

from the 2011 fixture list which we circulated at the AGM last year, and notice that the

EGGA Bigga National Championship.

So many of you may have please let me know. The London Section had its winter meeting/AGM at Old Fold Manor back in early December, so I would like to thank Ian Collinson, Course Manager, for presenting the golf course so well on the day, and to the manicure team on winning who were well lead by their Course Manager Craig Newton, his two assistants and just a little help from yours truly also and I also thank Old Fold Manor for hosting the day. Once the food and prize giving was over, it was simple straight into the AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

The AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

I think that it was clear to see that BTME is not the right vehicle for every company but it is an incredibly disrespectful to the companies that do choose to exhibit to be hijacked in this way and I would urge you to all to remember that

from the 2011 fixture list which we circulated at the AGM last year, and notice that the

EGGA Bigga National Championship.

So many of you may have please let me know. The London Section had its winter meeting/AGM at Old Fold Manor back in early December, so I would like to thank Ian Collinson, Course Manager, for presenting the golf course so well on the day, and to the manicure team on winning who were well lead by their Course Manager Craig Newton, his two assistants and just a little help from yours truly also and I also thank Old Fold Manor for hosting the day. Once the food and prize giving was over, it was simple straight into the AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

The AMG which was a long drawn out affair. The following com-

men’s Bigga National Championship.

I think that it was clear to see that BTME is not the right vehicle for every company but it is an incredibly disrespectful to the companies that do choose to exhibit to be hijacked in this way and I would urge you to all to remember that

from the 2011 fixture list which we circulated at the AGM last year, and notice that the

EGGA Bigga National Championship.

So many of you may have please let me know. The London Section had its winter meeting/AGM at Old Fold Manor back in early December, so I would like to thank Ian Collinson, Course Manager, for presenting the golf course so well on the day, and to the manicure team on winning who were well lead by their Course Manager Craig Newton, his two assistants and just a little help from yours true...
Around The Green

BIGGA welcomes the following new members

Scotland
- Stuart Cameron, Greenkeeper, The Glamis Hotel & Golf Courses, Angus Section
- Ian Derham, Greenkeeper, Seafield Golf Club, North Berwick, East Lothian Section
- Stephen Craig, Greenkeeper, Head Greenkeeper, Forfar Golf Club, Angus Section
- David Gaff, Greenkeeper, West Bruce Golf Club, North Berwick, East Lothian Section
- Mark Parker, Greenkeeper, Preston Park Golf Club, Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire Section
- Jim Brown, Head Greenkeeper, Dollar Golf Club, Stirlingshire Section

Northern Region
- Ian Campbell, Affiliate member, Campey Turfcare Systems/Turfworks, Northern Region Central Section
- Stuart Greenshields, Greenkeeper, The Gleneagles Hotel & Golf Courses, Scotland

South East Region
- Peter Holmstrom, Greenkeeper, Alperton Golf Club, Essex Section
- Anthony Pitcher, Affiliate member, Gorse Golf Club, South West Section

South West/South Wales Region
- David Taylor, Greenkeeper, Meriden Springs Golf Club, Shrewsbury, Shropshire
- David Benger, Assistant Greenkeeper, Remedy Oak Golf Club, South West Section

Overseas
- John Ryan, Baldissero Golf Club, Republic of Ireland
- Andy Neal, Pinnacle GC, Netherlands

For more information on new members log in to the Members’ Area of the BIGGA Website

BIGGA Regional Conferences
Scotland
6 March 2012, Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline
Contact Peter Boyd, RA, 01382 603 340

A unique patented Water Management product
TRY IT THIS YEAR & SEE THE BENEFITS FOR YOURSELF!

Tel: 01233 756 241  www.farmura.com  www.aquatrols.com
**BIGGA welcomes the following new members**

**Scotland**

- Marc Deventer, Greendraper, The Gleneagles Hotel & Golf Courses, Central Section
- Stuart Greenshields, Greenkeeper, Scotland

**Northern Region**

- Tony Gadd, Turfcare Systems Turfwerks, Head Greenkeeper, Newlands Golf Club, North West Section
- Mark Campbell, Greendraper, West Lancashire Golf Club, North West Section
- Joe Broman, Head Greendraper, Ignite Turfcare Systems, Northern Section

**Midland Region**

- Nigel Ingles, Assistant Greendraper, Harpur Golf Course, Birmingham Section

**South East Region**

- Stuart Parkes, Greendraper, Heythrop Golf Club Ltd, Surrey Section
- Stephen Alcock, Greendraper, Alcock Golf Clubs, Hampshire Section
- Tom McManus, Greendraper, Fareham Golf Club, Hampshire Section
- Rob Green, Greendraper, Fareham Golf Club, Hampshire Section
- Barry Wright, Rijswijkse GC, Netherlands

**South West Region**

- Anthony Pitcher, Affiliate member, Gales Golf Club, South West Section
- David Taylor, Greenkeeper, Mendip Wales Region
- Peter Sjoberg, Assistant Greenkeeper, City Golf Club, East Anglia Section
- Ben Shipp, Assistant Greenkeeper, Ely Golf Club, London Section
- Robin Toovey, Greenkeeper, Muswell Hill Golf Club, London Section
- Kris Shale-Martin, Greenkeeper, Muswell Hill Golf Club Plc, Surrey Section
- Gavin Mason, Greenkeeper, Darent Valley Golf Club, Kent Section
- Hoyte Swager, Assistant Greenkeeper, Dunwood Manor Golf Club, Midland Region

**Overseas**

- John Ryan, Babybokosier Golf Club, Republic of Ireland
- Marijke van der Veer, Nieuwegein GC, Netherlands

**For more information on new members log in to the Members’ Area of the BIGGA Website**

Readers are reminded that BIGGA members are the only ones eligible to attend the annual BIGGA trade show. If you wish to attend the show, you must be a member and give your name on the start sheet, club for catering. So if you want to give accurate numbers to the organiser and it is impossible for housing development and we will be the last event taking place there.

We are guaranteed a warm welcome and a great day so try to be there, usual email glassy2003@hotmail.com for your application. The cost will be £25, which must be paid before the day. Payment on the day is no longer acceptable as this puts pressure on the organiser and it is impossible to give accurate numbers to the club for catering. So you want your name on the start sheet, pay before the day!

Out on the course there is very little happening, no trees to cut down and no leaves to blow away (but I do have a blower-Phill). The verti-drain sits in the shed complete with new tines, waiting for better conditions.

The machines are all ready for some spring growth although there is not much hope of that for the next couple of weeks. I am putting together a job sheet of things I would like to see done while the wife and I find some winter sun in the Maldives.

**Around The Green**

Christmas and planning for Harrrogate all get the better of me. As I write this there are light snow flurries and the ground is frozen solid, my staff are out with rakes on their shoulders although I am not sure why. Our resident Robin that hates the cold is sat on the edge of my desk looking for food.

The Section committee met early in February where final plans were made for the upcoming seminar. By the time you read this it will be history but I am sure it will have been a great day at the new venue.

A very successful course on pesticide update was held at Remedy Oak Golf Club just before Christmas. Jon Adlhart Associates run the course, which brings anyone with spraying qualifications up to date with all legislation. We hope to continue with more educational courses this year so anyone with a request or suggestion please contact Robert Hogarth or myself.

Our next golf event is at Dunwood Manor Golf Club, on April 26, this has a slightly sad note as the land has been sold for housing development and we will be the last event taking place there.

We are guaranteed a warm welcome and a great day so try to be there, usual email glassy2003@hotmail.com for your application. The cost will be £25, which must be paid before the day. Payment on the day is no longer acceptable as this puts pressure on the organiser and it is impossible to give accurate numbers to the club for catering. So you want your name on the start sheet, pay before the day!

Out on the course there is very little happening, no trees to cut down and no leaves to blow away (but I do have a blower-Phill). The verti-drain sits in the shed complete with new tines, waiting for better conditions.

The machines are all ready for some spring growth although there is not much hope of that for the next couple of weeks. I am putting together a job sheet of things I would like to see done while the wife and I find some winter sun in the Maldives.

Until the next time, Tony Gadd

**Can YOUR surfactant make a difference?**

Revolution improves access to 75% of the ESSENTIAL BUILDING BLOCKS needed for healthier turf: Nutrient, Air & Water

Revolution moves water EFFICIENTLY through the soil profile providing plant roots with more reliable moisture access- rain or shine!

Revolution Provides DRIER, FIRMER & CONSISTENT putting surface

Revolution moves water off the surface BALANCING air & water in the soil profile

Revolution STRENGTHENS THE PLANT to better fight disease, improves turf rootzone environment and fungicide performance through reduced leaching!

A unique patented Water Management product

TRY IT THIS YEAR & SEE THE BENEFITS FOR YOURSELF!

Tel: 01233 756 241  www.farmura.com  www.aquatrols.com
The Importance of Networking

BIGGA Sections and Networks

Getting there.

Networking is about creating a genuine relationship with the people you meet. It provides the opportunity for you to discover people who may be able to help with

queries/problems you encounter during your career as well as the opportunity for you to offer your assistance to others.

For people new to networking, it might seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other opportunities—vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns. BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the

Facebook groups or pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members.

The Association’s Sections and networks are active throughout the UK, with 26 Sections hosting events there is literally something for everybody. Current members of BIGGA can gain access to the Bulletin on the left hand side and select your Region or Sections’ from the menu on the left hand side and select your Region or Sections’ from the menu on the right hand side. Don’t forget you can contact your Section Secretary directly.

The Importance of Networking including Social Networking

Whether you are just starting out as a sports turf professional, greenkeeper or groundsman or at the pinnacle of your career, networking is likely to play a large part in your success. Networking is about creating a set of contacts and subsequently building a trust and creating a genuine relationship with the people you meet. It provides the opportunity for you to discover people who may be able to help with queries/problems you encounter during your career as well as the opportunity for you to offer your assistance to others.

For people new to networking, it might seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other opportunities—vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns. BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Your Section events will soon be gaining momentum, so make sure you have the dates in your diary.

Getting there.

Networking is about creating a genuine relationship with the people you meet. It provides the opportunity for you to discover people who may be able to help with queries/problems you encounter during your career as well as the opportunity for you to offer your assistance to others.

For people new to networking, it might seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other opportunities—vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns. BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Your Section events will soon be gaining momentum, so make sure you have the dates in your diary.

It’s Ecologically Sound

Facebook Networking

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with each other. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blog comments, mobile devices, and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns. BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Your Section events will soon be gaining momentum, so make sure you have the dates in your diary.

It’s Ecologically Sound

Facebook Networking

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with each other. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blog comments, mobile devices, and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns. BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Your Section events will soon be gaining momentum, so make sure you have the dates in your diary.

It’s Ecologically Sound

Facebook Networking

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with each other. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blog comments, mobile devices, and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns. BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Your Section events will soon be gaining momentum, so make sure you have the dates in your diary.

It’s Ecologically Sound

Facebook Networking

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with each other. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blog comments, mobile devices, and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns. BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Your Section events will soon be gaining momentum, so make sure you have the dates in your diary.

It’s Ecologically Sound

Facebook Networking

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with each other. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blog comments, mobile devices, and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns. BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Your Section events will soon be gaining momentum, so make sure you have the dates in your diary.

It’s Ecologically Sound

Facebook Networking

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with each other. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blog comments, mobile devices, and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns. BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Your Section events will soon be gaining momentum, so make sure you have the dates in your diary.
The Importance of Networking

Whether you are just starting out or have been working in the turf industry for many years, networking is likely to play a large part in your career as well as the opportunity for you to offer your assistance to others.

For people new to networking, it might seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Social Networking

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with one another. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, message boards, Wikipedia and countless others are catching on fast.

People use social networking to share recipes, photos, ideas and to keep friends updated on our lives. In many cases, you can use social networking tools from mobile devices, such as Blackberry and iPhones, as easily as from a PC or Mac.

By its very nature, social networking is interactive. You can tell anyone (that you want to talk to and that wants to listen to you) anything about your opinions and experiences—and vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the BIGGA British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join. Contact your Section Secretary to find out if your section has a Facebook Group/Page.

Membership

Your Section events will soon be up to date. For people new to networking, it may seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with one another. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, message boards, Wikipedia and countless others are catching on fast.

People use social networking to share recipes, photos, ideas and to keep friends updated on our lives. In many cases, you can use social networking tools from mobile devices, such as Blackberry and iPhones, as easily as from a PC or Mac.

By its very nature, social networking is interactive. You can tell anyone (that you want to talk to and that wants to listen to you) anything about your opinions and experiences—and vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the BIGGA British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join. Contact your Section Secretary to find out if your section has a Facebook Group/Page.

Membership

Your Section events will soon be up to date. For people new to networking, it may seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with one another. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, message boards, Wikipedia and countless others are catching on fast.

People use social networking to share recipes, photos, ideas and to keep friends updated on our lives. In many cases, you can use social networking tools from mobile devices, such as Blackberry and iPhones, as easily as from a PC or Mac.

By its very nature, social networking is interactive. You can tell anyone (that you want to talk to and that wants to listen to you) anything about your opinions and experiences—and vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the BIGGA British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join. Contact your Section Secretary to find out if your section has a Facebook Group/Page.

Membership

Your Section events will soon be up to date. For people new to networking, it may seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with one another. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, message boards, Wikipedia and countless others are catching on fast.

People use social networking to share recipes, photos, ideas and to keep friends updated on our lives. In many cases, you can use social networking tools from mobile devices, such as Blackberry and iPhones, as easily as from a PC or Mac.

By its very nature, social networking is interactive. You can tell anyone (that you want to talk to and that wants to listen to you) anything about your opinions and experiences—and vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the BIGGA British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join. Contact your Section Secretary to find out if your section has a Facebook Group/Page.

Membership

Your Section events will soon be up to date. For people new to networking, it may seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with one another. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, message boards, Wikipedia and countless others are catching on fast.

People use social networking to share recipes, photos, ideas and to keep friends updated on our lives. In many cases, you can use social networking tools from mobile devices, such as Blackberry and iPhones, as easily as from a PC or Mac.

By its very nature, social networking is interactive. You can tell anyone (that you want to talk to and that wants to listen to you) anything about your opinions and experiences—and vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the BIGGA British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join. Contact your Section Secretary to find out if your section has a Facebook Group/Page.

Membership

Your Section events will soon be up to date. For people new to networking, it may seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with one another. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, message boards, Wikipedia and countless others are catching on fast.

People use social networking to share recipes, photos, ideas and to keep friends updated on our lives. In many cases, you can use social networking tools from mobile devices, such as Blackberry and iPhones, as easily as from a PC or Mac.

By its very nature, social networking is interactive. You can tell anyone (that you want to talk to and that wants to listen to you) anything about your opinions and experiences—and vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the BIGGA British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join. Contact your Section Secretary to find out if your section has a Facebook Group/Page.

Membership

Your Section events will soon be up to date. For people new to networking, it may seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with one another. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, message boards, Wikipedia and countless others are catching on fast.

People use social networking to share recipes, photos, ideas and to keep friends updated on our lives. In many cases, you can use social networking tools from mobile devices, such as Blackberry and iPhones, as easily as from a PC or Mac.

By its very nature, social networking is interactive. You can tell anyone (that you want to talk to and that wants to listen to you) anything about your opinions and experiences—and vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the BIGGA British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join. Contact your Section Secretary to find out if your section has a Facebook Group/Page.

Membership

Your Section events will soon be up to date. For people new to networking, it may seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with one another. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, message boards, Wikipedia and countless others are catching on fast.

People use social networking to share recipes, photos, ideas and to keep friends updated on our lives. In many cases, you can use social networking tools from mobile devices, such as Blackberry and iPhones, as easily as from a PC or Mac.

By its very nature, social networking is interactive. You can tell anyone (that you want to talk to and that wants to listen to you) anything about your opinions and experiences—and vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the BIGGA British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join. Contact your Section Secretary to find out if your section has a Facebook Group/Page.

Membership

Your Section events will soon be up to date. For people new to networking, it may seem a daunting prospect. But by investing time in other people you might soon find that your career is reaping the rewards.

Social networking, also referred to as social media, encompasses many Internet-based tools that make it easier for people to listen, interact, engage and collaborate with one another. Social networking platforms such as Facebook, MySpace, YouTube, LinkedIn, Twitter, blogs, message boards, Wikipedia and countless others are catching on fast.

People use social networking to share recipes, photos, ideas and to keep friends updated on our lives. In many cases, you can use social networking tools from mobile devices, such as Blackberry and iPhones, as easily as from a PC or Mac.

By its very nature, social networking is interactive. You can tell anyone (that you want to talk to and that wants to listen to you) anything about your opinions and experiences—and vice versa—through blogs, Facebook pages, videos and even 140 character messages called tweets. You can also build communities based on common interests, causes and concerns.

Many BIGGA Sections now have Facebook Groups or Pages as do BIGGA itself, we now have over 400 members, search for the BIGGA British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association Ltd (BIGGA) and ask to join. Contact your Section Secretary to find out if your section has a Facebook Group/Page.
quick ‘nine hole’ quiz
world number 1’s

across
6 1988 sting single, a tribute to ben linder who was killed by nicaraguan government forces in 1987 (7)
8 nickname for a charlatan (9,6)
10/18/19
9 the fourth book of the hitchhiker’s guide to the galaxy (4,3,4,3,4)
11 one who compulsively commits arson (10)
13 assist (3)
15 small air-breathing arthropods (7)
17 small piece of toasted bread used in eg soup (7)
18 see 10
19 see 10
22 the use of both eyes (9,6)
24 us family, including woody and arlo, of folk singers (7)
25 small bunch of fragrant flowers (7)

down
1 food preparation area on a ship or aircraft (6)
2 bone of the foot between ankle and toes (10)
3 in the thick of (4)
4 by the shortest and most direct route (2,3,4,5)
5 despondent (8)
6 meld together (4)
7 london buildings formerly used as law student hostels (4,2,9)
9 california city which hosts the rose bowl football game (7)
12 unintelligible (10)
14 proprietary name for a branded envelope (5,3)
16 power, vigour (8)
20 tight lipped (6)
21 covetousness, personified as one of the deadly sins (8)
23 allium porrum, a plant related to the onion (4)

puzzle answers on page 65

sudoku

5 8 2 3
3 9 1 4
9 3 2 6
4 7 5 9

sudoku

4 2 r p c e a
f 7 e 3 c a e 9 c
1 c 0 a c a 4 c
d 0 2 3
2 c 3 a e a 5 4
2 c 3 a e a 5 4
1 c 0 2 3
4 2 3 a
4 2 3 a

puzzle answers on page 65
**CROSSWORD**

Quick 'Nine Hole' Quiz

**World Number 1s (as of February 29)***

1. Golf Male
2. International Rugby Union
3. Tennis Female
4. Indoor Bowls
5. International Football
6. Golf Female
7. Snooker
8. Tennis Male
9. Test Batsman

**DOWN**

1. Food preparation area on a ship or aircraft (6)
2. Bone of the foot between ankle and toes (10)
3. In the thick of (4)
4. By the shortest and most direct route (7,3,5)
5. Despondent (8)
6. Meld together (4)
7. London Buildings formerly used as law student hostels (4,2,9)
8. Californian city which hosts the Rose Bowl football game (9)
9. Californian city which hosts the Rose Bowl football game (10)
10. Unintelligible (10)
11. Prophetic name for a bricked envelope (5,3)
12. Unintelligible (10)
13. Assist (3)
14. Small air-breathing arthropods (7)
15. Small piece of toasted bread used in eg soup (7)
16. See 10
17. See 10
18. The use of both eyes (9,6)
19. 24 US family, including Woody and Arlo, of folk singers (7)
20. 25 Small bunch of fragrant flowers (7)
21. 56 flowers (7)
22. 25 Small bunch of fragrant singers (7)
23. Woody and Arlo, of folk
24. US family, including
25. The use of both eyes (9,6)
26. See 10
27. See 10
28. The use of both eyes (9,6)
29. 24 US family, including Woody and Arlo, of folk singers (7)
30. 25 Small bunch of fragrant flowers (7)

**MONSTER SUDOKU**

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 0 to 9 and the letters A to E.

**SUDOKU**

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

**Puzzle Answers on page 65**

**WHAT EVER THE WEATHER DELIVERS!**

LET CHEMSOL GLOBAL ASSIST YOU WITH WHAT EVER THE WEATHER DELIVERS!

**WHICH WETTING AGENT DO YOU NEED?**

**CURATIVE**

**HYDRO-SOLVE 35%**

The most effective site specific cure for dry patch on the market today. One mode of action, One solution.

- Reduces Dry Patch by 35% after 3 applications.
- No other Wetting Agent needed.
- Hand Watering reduced by 20%.
- Irrigation Water reduced by 25%.
- Uniform movement of water and nutrient through the soil profile.
- Strong penetrant properties.
- Tank mixed.
- Reduces spray applications from 6 to 3.

**PENETRANTS**

**HYDRO-FLOW**

Provides three critical factors - improved infiltration, penetration and hydration.

- Tank mixed.
- Hydro-Flow used through the Autumn Winter and Spring periods will firm up the waterlogged root zone. This is achieved by drawing the water down through the soil.
- Disease is greatly reduced.

**HYDRO-SHOOT**

Economical penetrant soil surfactant.

- Tank mixed.
- Strong penetrant will help any feed or nutrient programme that needs to be taken into the soil profile.
- Uniform movement of water.
- Economical in use.
- A superb compliment to pH Bi-Carb and FX 30 Seaweed.
- Provides three critical factors – improved infiltration, penetration and hydration.

**RECLUS**

**HYDRO-LAST 90**

Maintains a 90 day residual presence on water repellent soil particles that allow re-hydration and deep uniform penetration.

- As excess water builds on the surfactant ammended soil surface, it is pulled downwards by gravity and capillary suction. This continues for 90 days through the soil matrix.
- Tank Mixed.
- Economical in use.
- Encourages recovery of turf when under stress.
- Labour saving.
- Ideal for sand based soils

**HYDRO-LAST 150-240**

Offers a highly effective long lasting flexible surfactant lasting up to 150-240 days.

- Tank Mixed.
- Ideal areas of use on Bunker Faces, Tees and High Spots.
- Long term wettability.
- Ideal partner for growth retardants.
- Economical in use.
- Labour saving on spray applications.

**FAIRWAY WETTERS**

**FAIRWAY WETTER + SEAWEED**

Effectively manages water repellent conditions in the soil profile.

- Improve hydration and re-hydration of the root zone.
- Sufgrass that is preconditioned to better withstand the stresses associated with extended periods of high temperatures and water deficit stress.

**FAIRWAY WETTER + SEAWEED**

Fairway Wetter + Seaweed is a blend of surfactant chemistries designed to offer the turfgrass manager a means to effectively manage water repellent conditions in the soil profile.

- Improve hydration and re-hydration of the root zone.
- An enriched root zone that supports vigorous root development, increased root mass and improved biological activity.
- Turfgrass that is preconditioned to better withstand the stresses associated with extended periods of high temperatures and water deficit stress.

**BUY 50 LITRES OF ANY OF THE PRODUCTS ABOVE AND YOU WILL RECEIVE 1 FREE PACK OF PELLETS (CONTAINING 6) OF YOUR CHOICE.**

**WHilst stocks LAST!**

**PELLETS**

Chemsol Big One

Contains three penetrant wetting agents for use in irrigation tanks

**Mini Pellets**

Designed for use when hand watering or spot treatment

**Puzzle Answers on page 65**

**PLEASE QUOTE GI0312 FOR A FURTHER 10% DISCOUNT OFF THE LIST PRICE OF ALL PRODUCTS MENTIONED IN THIS ADVERT. THIS OFFER LASTS UNTIL THE END OF MARCH OR WHEN CURRENT STOCK LEVELS ARE DEPLETED.**

Chemsol (Global) Ltd, Matrix House, Goodman Street, Hunslet, Leeds, LS10 1NZ ENGLAND

Tel: 0113 3220048 Fax: 0113 3220496 Email: sales@chemsolglobal.com Web: www.chemsolglobal.com
**NEW PRODUCTS**

The latest products from BTME 2012 reviewed

**Ransomes Jacobsen Introduce Refreshed Walking Greens Mowers**

Retaining the electric motors for traction and cutting red drive, they are available in three cutting widths 45.7 cm, 55.9 cm and 66 cm, all with an optional petrol engine or drop-in battery pack.

The 45.7 cm and 55.9 cm can be specified with fixed or floating head cutting reels with 11 or 15 blades.

The wider 66 cm version has a 7-blade fixed cutting reel, giving a total of 18 models to choose from.

The patented true floating head allows the lowest heights of cut without scalping, even on the most undulating greens, and a wide array of frequency of cut settings combine to produce a smooth and consistent playing surface.

The Eclipse2 features a true automotive differential, which provides superior tracking by driving the traction drum from one point, making it easier to track straight across the green.

The Eclipse2 delivers a maximum speed up to 6.1 km/h (3.8) mph while maintaining the tightest frequency of clip. The mowing speed can be set through a pin-protected menu on the Eclipse2’s InCommand control system.

On the hybrid version, with a Honda petrol engine powering a 48-volt generator, the engine has now been mounted through 180 degrees giving a better balance to the machine and also making starting easier, presenting the pull cord directly in front of the operator.

**Syngenta Turf Nozzles in Prototype Testing**

A new range of Syngenta turf nozzles specifically designed to cope with spraying on undulating golf courses and to aide lower water volume applications is new in prototype testing.

Also on show at BTME was the completely new design of the Syngenta Turf Nozzle XC 08 has been developed with a 127 degree fan pattern, which gives a wider spray and ensures adequate coverage even when the nozzle spraying height is reduced when spraying over undulating ground.

Each nozzle will feature a backward facing spray pattern, with prototype testing having calculated the optimum angle for the different nozzle sizes, in order to deposit the maximum spray in the target zone.

The range is currently being subjected to testing in independent spray testing facilities and in practical use on golf courses. The nozzles are planned for sale release in late spring 2012.

Also new from Syngenta at BTME was an easy to use three-step Act of Application Calibration Guide. It includes full information and guidance to accurately set-up and calibrate a sprayer along with a quick reference card for operators to keep in their wallet or sprayer cab, to encourage regular calibration checks to maintain accurate application.

The Guide can be downloaded from the website, with cards available direct from Syngenta or at any of the regular Syngenta seminars and events over the year.

**New Golf Irrigation Control System**

Bailoy Products launched its latest golf irrigation control system at BTME.

The GTI EC is a simple-to-use, cost-effective wall-mounted irrigation control system. Bailoy created this product for all those who want a modern solution with more features than a basic wall unit, but which is less expensive than a full PC system. Importantly, GTI EC has been designed as the perfect upgrade or replacement for existing SC3000 and TW2 wallmount controllers.

Bailoy designed and built the Toro-branded SC3000 system in the early 80s. That GTI EC also offers an extremely effective, value-for-money solution for new irrigation installations of a more straightforward design.

For example, smaller golf clubs and courses, and nine-hole courses or municipal sites with less complex watering needs, will appreciate its cost-effectiveness in these economically tough times.

It’s equally adaptable for irrigating sports surfaces such as football and rugby pitches, tennis courts and bowling greens, too, as well as commercial landscapes and large residential gardens.

After installation and initial set up, the user is guided through a series of smart multiple-choice screens to set the system according to their needs, and then it is ready to irrigate.

Ten straightforward watering programmes and other simplified features ensure GTI EC is foolproof. It can be operated from any location on or off site.

**ATT’s INFiNiCut™**

The latest generation of walk behind greens mowers from ATT combines leading edge technology with the greenkeeping expertise of its inventor, John Coleman.

INFiNiCut comprises the INFiNiP-vair power unit and the SMARTCut™ grass cutting cassette (above) to create an advanced dedicated greens and tees mower.

INFiNiCut has one of the shortest footprints of any walk behind mower on the market allowing ultra-low heights of cut, on even the most undulating greens without scalping. An all new dual power source – Hybrid Engine/Generator Power system or battery power – reduces noise and improves fuel efficiency.

ATT’s INFiNiCut™ is a constituent part of the INFiNiP-over walk behind total turf maintenance cassette system: the SMARTCut™ cassette can be withdrawn and replaced with any other cassette in the system such as SMARTVibe, THATCHMaster, and Ultra-Groomer.

The portable compressor range from Doosan Portable Power has introduced a new branding scheme for the company’s ranges of portable air compressors, generators and lighting towers.

These products were added to the Doosan range when the company acquired several of the construction equipment businesses of Ingersoll Rand in 2007, along with the Bobcat, Grim and Montalbert ranges.

www.greencom.co.uk

www.bailoy.com

www.doosanportablepower.com
New Golf Irrigation Control System

Bailoy Products launched its latest golf irrigation control system at BTME. The GTI EC is a simple-to-use, cost-effective wall-mounted irrigation control system. Bailoy created this product for all those who want a modern solution with more features than a basic wallmount, but which is less expensive than a full PC system. Importantly, GTI EC has been designed as the perfect upgrade or replacement for existing SC3000 and TW2 wallmount controllers.

Bailoy designed and built the Toro-branded SC3000 system in the early 80s. That GTI EC also offers an extremely effective, value-for-money solution for new irrigation installations of a more straightforward design. For example, smaller golf clubs and courses, and nine-hole courses or municipal sites with less complex watering needs, will appreciate its cost-effectiveness in these economically tough times. It’s equally adaptable for irrigating sports surfaces such as football and rugby pitches, tennis courts and bowling greens, too, as well as commercial landscapes and large residential gardens.

After installation and initial set up, the user is guided through a series of smart multiple-choice screens to set the system according to their needs, and then it’s ready to irrigate.

Ten straightforward watering programmes and other simplified features ensure GTI EC is user friendly. It can be operated from the wallmount itself or users can opt to access the system via an internet-enabled iPad or tablet device, or through an existing office computer. This option mirrors the GTI EC screen on the remote device, giving the user control from any location on or off site.

Infinicut

The latest generation of walk behind greens mowers from ATT combines leading-edge technology with the greenkeeping expertise of its inventor, John Coleman. INFINICUT comprises the INFiNiPowers power unit and the SMARTCut™ grass cutting cassette (above) to create an advanced dedicated greens and tees mower.

ATT’S INFiNiCut™ is a constituent part of the INFiNiPowers power unit and the SMARTCut™ grass cutting cassette system: the SMARTCut™ cassette can be withdrawn and replaced with any other cassette in the system such as SMARTVibe, THATCHMaster, and Ultra-Groomer.

Doosan Portable Power

Doosan Portable Power has introduced a new branding scheme for the company’s ranges of portable air compressors, generators and lighting towers. These products were added to the Doosan range when the company acquired several of the construction equipment businesses of Ingersoll Rand in 2007, along with the Bobcat, Ditto and Montalbert ranges.

Syngenta Turf Nozzles in Prototype Testing

A new range of Syngenta turf nozzles specifically designed to cope with spraying on undulating golf courses and to aid lower water volume applications is new in prototype testing. Also on show at BTME was the completely new design of the Syngenta Turf Nozzle XC 08 has been developed with a 127 degree fan pattern which gives a wider spray and ensures adequate coverage even when the nozzle spraying height is reduced when spraying over undulating ground.

Each nozzle will feature a backward facing spray pattern, with prototype engineering having calculated the optimum angle for the different nozzle sizes, in order to deposit the maximum spray in the target zone. The range is currently being subjected to testing in independent spray testing facilities and has particular use on golf courses. The nozzles are planned for sale release in late spring 2012.

Also new from Syngenta at BTME was an easy to use three-step Art of Application Calibration Guide. It includes full information and guidance to accurately set-up and calibrate a sprayer along with a quick reference card for operators to keep in their wallets or sprayer cab, to encourage regular calibration checks to maintain accurate applications.

The Guide can be downloaded from the website, with cards available direct from Syngenta or at any of the regular Syngenta seminars and events over the year.

Doosan portable power range from Doosan Portable Power comprises 25 models running from the compact 7/20 portable compressor to the large 10/425 Oil-Free machine covering free air deliveries from 1.9 to 45.5 m3/min at output pressures from 7 to 25 bar.

Lakeland Earthworks

Lakeland Earthworks first and foremost specialise in golf course construction, alterations and renovations. With over 35 years experience in the specialist earthworks industry, Lakeland believe the successful creation of a golf course requires a thorough knowledge and understanding of the game. This knowledge has been gained through years of experience built on working with some of the best designers and course managers in the industry.

Lakeland operate and own a wide range of specialist plant, machinery, transport and equipment including 360 excavators with the latest power tilt attachments, dumpers with low ground pressure tyres and bulldozers. Some of this machinery has been manufactured to individual specifications in order to ensure improved efficiency in service provision.

Lakeland experienced management team and skilled technicians pride themselves on being able to deliver projects to the highest standard, on time, within budget with minimal disruption to golf club members and the environment.

Lakeland has the pleasure of working with many Professional Golfers together with some fantastic Architects, Designers, Course Managers and Greenkeepers in the country. Lakeland are proud to provide a first class service to all of its clients and cater for a wide range of budgets from country to top Championship courses in the industry.

Lakeland are proud to provide a first class service to all of its clients and cater for a wide range of budgets from country to top Championship courses in the industry. Lakeland has the pleasure of working with many Professional Golfers together with some fantastic Architects, Designers, Course Managers and Greenkeepers in the country. Lakeland are proud to provide a first class service to all of its clients and cater for a wide range of budgets from country to top Championship courses in the industry.

Lakeland operate and own a wide range of specialist plant, machinery, transport and equipment including 360 excavators with the latest power tilt attachments, dumpers with low ground pressure tyres and bulldozers. Some of this machinery has been manufactured to individual specifications in order to ensure improved efficiency in service provision.

Lakeland experienced management team and skilled technicians pride themselves on being able to deliver projects to the highest standard, on time, within budget with minimal disruption to golf club members and the environment.

Lakeland has the pleasure of working with many Professional Golfers together with some fantastic Architects, Designers, Course Managers and Greenkeepers in the country. Lakeland are proud to provide a first class service to all of its clients and cater for a wide range of budgets from country to top Championship courses in the industry. Lakeland has the pleasure of working with many Professional Golfers together with some fantastic Architects, Designers, Course Managers and Greenkeepers in the country. Lakeland are proud to provide a first class service to all of its clients and cater for a wide range of budgets from country to top Championship courses in the industry.

Lakeland Earthworks first and foremost specialise in golf course construction, alterations and renovations. With over 35 years experience in the specialist earthworks industry, Lakeland believe the successful creation of a golf course requires a thorough knowledge and understanding of the game. This knowledge has been gained through years of experience built on working with some of the best designers and course managers in the industry.

Lakeland operate and own a wide range of specialist plant, machinery, transport and equipment including 360 excavators with the latest power tilt attachments, dumpers with low ground pressure tyres and bulldozers. Some of this machinery has been manufactured to individual specifications in order to ensure improved efficiency in service provision.

Lakeland experienced management team and skilled technicians pride themselves on being able to deliver projects to the highest standard, on time, within budget with minimal disruption to golf club members and the environment.

Lakeland has the pleasure of working with many Professional Golfers together with some fantastic Architects, Designers, Course Managers and Greenkeepers in the country. Lakeland are proud to provide a first class service to all of its clients and cater for a wide range of budgets from country to top Championship courses in the industry. Lakeland has the pleasure of working with many Professional Golfers together with some fantastic Architects, Designers, Course Managers and Greenkeepers in the country. Lakeland are proud to provide a first class service to all of its clients and cater for a wide range of budgets from country to top Championship courses in the industry.
Lakeland Earthworks

Lakeland Earthworks first and foremost specialise in golf course construction, alterations and renovations. Over 35 years of experience in the specialist earthworks industry Lakeland believe the successful creation of a golf course requires a thorough knowledge and understanding of the game. This knowledge has been gained through years of experience built on working with some of the best designers and course managers in the industry.

Lakeland operate and own a wide range of specialist plant, machinery, transport and equipment including 360 excavators with the latest power tilt attachments, dumpers with low ground pressure tyres and bulldozers. Some of this machinery has been manufactured to individual specifications in order to ensure improved efficiency in service provision.

Lakeland’s experienced management team and skilled technicians pride themselves on being able to deliver projects to the highest standard, on time, within budget with minimal disruption to golf club members and the environment.

Golf course construction services include project design, planning and management, earthworks, shaping, drainage installation, water engineering, final preparation, surface installation, aftercare and seasonal maintenance.

Lakeland has the pleasure of working with many Professional Golfers together with some fantastic Architects, Designers, Court Managers and Greenkeepers in the country. Lakeland are proud to provide a first class service to all of its clients and cater for a wide range of budgets from municipal facilities through to top Championship courses in the UK and Europe.

Fully trained, vastly experienced and qualified operatives, attention to detail, and of course full health and safety compliance make Lakeland an ideal choice for your golf course construction projects.

info@lakelandearthworks.com
www.lakelandearthworks.co.uk
01400 251605

Buyer’s Guide

CONSTRUCTION

Lakeland Earthworks
Golf Course Construction Greens, Tees, Bunker
Renovation and Alterations Earthworks Lakes/Ports/Water Engineering Drainage Solutions
01400 351605 07900 093705
info@lakelandearthworks.com
www.lakelandearthworks.co.uk

ADVERTISE HERE from as little as £250 for a FULL 6 MONTHS, full colour, please call Jill on 01347 833 832 or email jill@bigga.co.uk

ALL WEATHER SURFACES

MJ Abbott

GOLF COURSE SPECIALISTS
• GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION
• REMODELLING & RENOVATION
• WATER & DRAINAGE
• COURT & MACHINERY MAINTENANCE
• SPORTSGROUND CONSTRUCTION
Tel: 01772 716361
www.mjabbott.co.uk

Turf and Trees
15” drill aeration for your Golf Club
• Paths
• Green Figung
• Maintenance
Tel: 01449 873783
www.terraimporters.com

terraineration@nest.com

Bunker Construction

Traditional drainage and Lytton banding of greens and fairways

North Staffs IRRIGATION
Golf Course Drainage Tennis/Court Installation Grasses Turf/Grass / Bunker / Complete Courses Permeable Pave / Tuddy Drainage System For fast and friendly Nationwide Service Contact Matthew Taylor, 01283 551417 07900 0911 17 matrix2802@yahoo.com
www.turfdry.com

The bunker lining solution
01344 631654
www.thabinder.com

Tel: 01775 817708
E: info@bigga.co.uk
www.northstaffsirrigation.co.uk

irritte-limited

Design Installation Service Irrigation supplies
01785 812706
E: info@irritte-limited.co.uk
www.northstaffsirrigation.co.uk

Irrigation consultants

Meiklem Drainage Contractors Ltd
Sportsturf Drainage Specialists
Golf Courses - Sportsfields Drainage  Construction Sitting/Banding
Contact Meiklem Drainage on: T: 01383 830217 M: 07650 897 300 E: Meiklem@btopenworld.com

Look at the latest... Second Hand Machinery for sale
www.bigga.org.uk/classifieds

www.terrainaeration.com

• WASTE/WASHWATER
• VERTIDRAINING HIRE
• USED MACHINERY
• TURF RENOVATION
• TREE MOVING
• TOP DRESSING
• SOIL FOOD WEB
• RUBBER CRUMB
• MACHINERY WANTED
• MACHINERY FOR SALE
• LAKE CONSTRUCTION
• FLAGS
• FINANCE & LEASING
• CONSTRUCTION
• COMPACT TRACTORS
• ANTI SLIP
• ARTIFICIAL GRASS
• ALL WEATHER SURFACES
• AERATION

Air excavation
10” drill aeration
Turf and Trees

T: 01823 690216
E: info@dixondrainage.co.uk
www.dixondrainage.co.uk

Survey / Design / Installation / Greens / Maintenance

Jill on 01347 833 832
Tel: 01962 733222
jill@bigga.co.uk

irritech limited

Specialising in-
• Building system evaluation
• System design & sale
• Project management

Contact Roger Davies on: 01853 600216

Tel: 07889 008612
www.irritech.com
Look at the latest... Second Hand Machinery... for sale
www.bigga.org.uk/classifieds

 Specialist Growers of Turf for Golf Courses
 Rootzone Turf for Greens
 Grown on USGA rootzone, top-dressed throughout the year, and mown at 6mm.
 (Polycarron) 15m x 1m x 1m
 Used: £250
 comprar nueva:
 £250

Bunker revetting turf

01759 321 000 ·  F: 01759 380 130
Tel: 01347 833 832

Look at the latest... Second Hand Machinery... for sale
www.bigga.org.uk/classifieds

1. ‘How to Cascade Goals to Teams and Individually’

Profit goal - to reduce waste by 10% across the whole site, by September 20XX

These short, handy guides provide practical, step by step guidance on a range of subjects. The guides can be downloaded and used to help you develop your knowledge and implement new processes within your workplace.

To download the ‘How To...’ guides, log on to the BIGGA Members Area at www.bigga.org and click on Member Resources.

How to conduct a one-to-one meeting
How to conduct a team briefing
How to prepare for an appraisal
How to recruit the right staff
How to write a job description

“The How To...” guides are now available exclusively to BIGGA Members, on a range of Human Resource topics.

exclusive to BIGGA members

Download and learn
Assistant Greenkeeper

Abridge Golf Club

Abridge Golf Club is situated in Essex and is presently in need of a Regional Assistant Greenkeeper for the course manager at Abridge Golf Club. The candidate must have a good knowledge of golf and be able to work in a team environment. The club is looking for a high standard of presentation & commitment.

The salary is dependent on qualifications and experience.

Closing date for applications is 21st April 2012

Liberton Golf Club

A prestigious 18 hole parkland golf course, established in 1920 and set in the heart of Edinburgh with circa 600 members, is seeking a new, creative and dynamic Assistant Greenkeeper to help maintain the course at a high standard of work and being a positive Member of the greenkeeping Team.

The successful candidate will be experienced in construction drainage, irrigation system operation & maintenance, landscaping & woodland management. Remuneration will be by agreement, reflect the importance of the position, & the successful applicant’s skills, abilities & experience.

Please apply in writing, with CV & a covering letter (preferably by email) to:

Mr. Paul Copsey, Group Courses Manager, Crown Golf. p.copsey@crown-golf.co.uk Mobile: 07774 823119

C/O Addington Court Golf Club, Featherbed Lane, Addington, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 9AA

STOUBURGH GOLF CLUB

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

Stourbridge Golf Club, founded in 1892, is a prestigious 18 hole golf course set on the outskirts of Stourbridge Town. Stourbridge Golf Club is a hard working club and our main target is to make the club a great place to play golf.

The successful candidate will be highly motivated with a strong work ethic, be able to work in a team environment and have a good knowledge of golf and golf course maintenance.

Closing date for applications is 30th March 2012

Qualified Greenkeeper

Olton Golf Club, Solihull

Olton Golf Club, Solihull was founded in 1892 and is a very attractive 18 hole parkland golf course spread over 370 acres. The course has been extended from 5,249 yards in 1989 to 6,231 yards in 2012. It is a very good test of golf.

The successful candidate will be experienced in turf and ornamental ground preparation, maintenance, drainage, irrigation, landscaping & woodland management.

Salary is dependent on qualifications and experience.

Closing date for applications is 30th March, 2012

The British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association

Regional Administrator: Scotland and Northern Ireland Region

Due to retirements we are looking for organised, self-motivated individuals for these full-time home based positions. As the successful applicants will oversee the administration of Regional affairs, organise and attend Regional Board meetings, prepare agendas, take minutes and manage the finances of the Region amongst other responsibilities, they will have a good knowledge of office practices, administration and customer service skills and have good knowledge of IT software including word processing, databases and spreadsheets.

BIGGA is known for its excellent education programme and the Regional Administrators will be responsible for organising Regional Conferences (in conjunction with the Learning and Development Department), seminars, lectures and golf tournaments. Experience and interest in golf or the golfing industry is desirable but not essential.

Looking to Recruit?

LOOK NO FURTHER THAN...

www.bigga.org.uk/careers

ADVERTISE IN GREENKEEPER INTERNATIONAL FOR A MONTH FROM £540 + VAT FOR AN 1/8 PAGE ADVERT, OR GO DIRECTLY ONLINE FROM £35 + VAT FOR A PART MONTH & £540 + VAT FOR A FULL MONTH

For further information contact Jill Rodham on 01347 833 800 or EMAIL Jill@bigga.co.uk

Quick ‘Nine Hole’ Quiz Answers:


CROSSWORD

MONSTER SUDOKO

SQUIGGLY SUDOKO
Assistant Greenkeeper

Abridge Golf and Country Club

Abridge Golf Club is situated in Essex and is a member of the Essex Regional Greenkeepers Union.

The playing season is vast and the Club offers an excellent full time position.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the management & implementation of the golf course maintenance practices & preparation of the golf course within the organisational & operational structure of the golf club.

Please send your CV and covering letter to: greg.duthie@clubmanager.co.uk

Closing date for applications is Friday 30th March 2012

Liberton Golf Club

A prestigious, 18 hole parkland golf course, established in 1920 and set in the heart of Edinburgh.

The Secretary, Liberton Golf Club, 297 Gilmerton Road, Edinburgh  EH16 5UJ

Tel 0131 664 3009

Salary negotiable

Please apply in writing, with CV & a covering letter (preferably by email) to;

Mr. Paul Copsey, Group Courses Manager, Crown Golf, p.copsey@golfdirectory.co.uk Mobile: 07774 32119

Closing date:- 30th March, 2012

STOURBRIDGE GOLF CLUB

ASSISTANT GREENKEEPER

STOURBRIDGE GOLF CLUB

A picturesque, 18 hole parkland golf course, established in 1892, and set in the heart of Stourbridge.

The successful candidate will be responsible for the management & implementation of the golf course maintenance practices & preparation of the golf course within the organisational & operational structure of the golf club.

Please apply in writing, with CV & a covering letter indicating which position(s) is of interest, to the Club Manager. As these are home-based posts, all appropriate expenses will be paid together with a company car.

If you require further information on the post before applying please email Tracey Maddison, General Manager/Head of Membership or to apply please forward your Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter indicating which position(s) is of interest, by email only, to traceymaddison@bigga.co.uk

Closing date for applications is 31st March 2012

Qualified Greenkeeper

Olton Golf Club, Solihull

Olton Golf Club, Solihull was founded in 1892 and is a very attractive 18 hole parkland golf course spread over about 75 acres from which some very fine views can be obtained.

Our main aim is to keep the course in an excellent playing condition throughout the year and important requirements for this position are the ability to advance the objectives.

We are looking to recruit a qualified Greenkeeper to our team who is self motivated, enthusiastic and has a high standard of presentation standards.

The candidate will need to have a good sound knowledge in all aspects of Greenkeeping, Health & Safety and a good eye for detail.

The candidate would need a minimum qualification of NVQ level 2 and preferably NVQ level 3, providing certificates. Changeless hours would be preferred but not essential. Salary will be dependent on qualifications and experience.

To apply send your CV, with covering letter to Mr. Mark Smith, Course Manager, Olton Golf Club, Mrkiss Rd, Solihull. B91 1SH
coursemanager@oltongolf.com

Closing date: 30th March 2012
The ‘Green Illusion’

Are you familiar with Augusta home of the US Masters, which for many players in the classic example of a perfectly manicured golf course? Before the season starts at Easter, many northern European golfers dream after seeing ‘The Masters’ on television, of perfect, manicured greens, which is, unfortunately, far from reality. To think that their own golf course may provide the same opportunities for so called ‘perfect playing conditions’, causes members to question how their course is being maintained.

This situation can bring the greenkeeper into conflict with the membership. Because the golfers demand something from him that is unsustainable and, yes, unrealistic. If not resolved such differences can lead to serious conflict. On most newly built courses, Agrostis / Festuca grasses are chosen for ecological and economic reasons. Because the greenkeeper tries to please the members by providing green, holding surfaces Annual Meadow grass (Poa Annua) becomes the dominant grass species after a few years.

This grass is to be found on the greens of most of the golf courses worldwide and dictates the greenkeepers maintenance programme. The result is turf prone to disease as well as having very limited tolerance to stresses such as heat and cold. The solution to this problem is clear: Anyone who wants green grass usually uses water, fertiliser and chemicals. Now the responsible, straight thinking greenkeeper faces this dilemma: He pleased the members in the short term, but in the long term he let the wrong grasses strengthen. If he follows his conscience about sustainability and its ecological requirements, he will have to make a difficult decision regarding his approach to course management. There is need for more information.

If the greenkeeper does not change the way manages his turf the golfers will soon meet difficult conditions. Soft, green and slow putting surfaces make the game less attractive than firm and not so green surfaces. Such surfaces will not be playable throughout the whole year.

The golfers wish for a good putting surfaces is well known, if the greenkeeper tries to fulfill the idea that a lush green putting surface is good, the quality of the green usually falls by the wayside, certainly ‘green’ greens will never provide to faster putting speeds demanded these days. Because of these procedures, the very shallow rooted spring seeding annual meadow grass (Poa Annua) is susceptible to disease. On top of that, Poa Annua needs multiple chemical applications each year, just to protect this undesirable grass from total failure.

In this situation many golf clubs have to deal with increased costs in addition to the mechanical maintenance and an additional expense for fertilizer, water and chemicals. All this is not in the interest of the members, committees and golf associations at home or abroad. To break this vicious circle, it needs hard work and targeted use of, for example, hand watering. However, this is only possible by adequately staffed greenkeeping teams, but it is here that spending of money will be saved.

The question remains, what happens if the EU bans chemicals for the golf courses, as the national authorities in Denmark already have done? What lies ahead are probably restrictions on water consumption.

Unfortunately we lack the arguments that might help in the long run. A logical consequence for this problem is for the Greenkeeper to go back to more sustainable, ecological and economic golf course maintenance.

For the golfer this results in a new color palette, a mix of green, yellow and brown color than green grass, which is usually better as well as a healthy alternative putting surface that the ‘Green Illusion’ offers.

Norbert Lischka

The views expressed within On The Soapbox are not necessarily those of Greenkeeper International
The ‘Green Illusion’

Are you familiar with Augusta home of the US Masters, which for many players in the classic example of a perfectly manicured golf course? Before the season starts at Easter, many northern European golfers dream after seeing ‘The Masters’ on television, of perfect, manicured greens, which is, unfortunately, far from reality. To think that their own golf course may provide the same opportunities for so-called ‘perfect playing conditions’, causes members to question how their course is being maintained.

This situation can bring the greenkeeper into conflict with the membership. Because the golfers demand something from him that is unsustainable and, yes, unrealistic. If not resolved such differences can lead to serious conflict. On most newly built courses, Agrostis / Festuca grasses are chosen for ecological and economic reasons. Because the greenkeeper tries to please the members by providing green, holding surfaces Annual Meadow grass (Poa Anua) becomes the dominant grass species after a few years.

This grass is to be found on the greens of most of the golf courses worldwide and dictates the greenkeepers maintenance programme. The result is turf prone to disease as well as having very limited tolerance to stresses such as heat and cold.

The solution to this problem is clear: Anyone who wants green grass usually uses water, fertiliser and chemicals. Now the responsible, straight-thinking greenkeeper faces this dilemma: He pleased the members in the short term, but in the long term he let the wrong grasses strengthen. If he follows his conscience about sustainability and its ecological requirements, he will have to make a difficult decision regarding his approach to course management. There is need for more information.

If the greenkeeper does not change the way manages his turf the golfers will soon meet difficult conditions. Soft, green and slow putting surfaces make the game less attractive than firm and not so green surfaces. Such surfaces will not be playable throughout the whole year.

The golfers wish for a good putting surface is well known, if the greenkeeper tries to fulfill the idea that a lush green putting surface is good, the quality of the green usually falls by the wayside, certainly ‘green’ greens will never provide to faster putting speeds demanded these days. Because of these procedures, the very shallow rooted spring seeding annual meadow grass (Poa Anua) is susceptible to disease. On top of that, Poa Anua needs multiple chemical applications each year, just to protect this undesirable grass from total failure.

In this situation many golf clubs have to deal with increased costs in addition to the mechanical maintenance and an additional expense for fertilizer, water and chemicals. All this is not in the interest of the members, committees and golf associations at home or abroad.

To break this vicious circle, it needs hard work and targeted use of, for example, hand watering. However, this is only possible by adequately staffed greenkeeping teams, but it is here that spending of money will be saved.

The question remains, what happens if the EU bans chemicals for the golf courses, as the national authorities in Denmark already have done? What lies ahead are probably restrictions on water consumption.

Unfortunately we lack the arguments that might help in the long run. A logical consequence for this problem is for the Greenkeeper to go back to more sustainable, ecological and economic golf course maintenance. For the golfer this results in a new color palette, a mix of green, yellow and brown color than green grass, which is usually better as well as a healthy alternative putting surface that the ‘Green Illusion’ offers.

Norbert Lischka, Master Greenkeeper, GC Hamburg Falkenstein

The views expressed within On The Soapbox are not necessarily those of Greenkeeper International
Six of the best to beat turf diseases

Disease recognition, the visual symptoms, conditions favouring development, the high risk periods – send for the Disease-Beaters leaflet:
Freefone: 0800 424 919
eMail: sales@rigbytaylor.com
Web: www.rigbytaylor.com